Homework already!
International affairs professionals know the importance of keeping tabs on developments across the planet, not just in their own region of interest or subfield. They similarly keep abreast of new works that create a stir among the policy wonk set. The 2015 required summer reading books cover several key systemic issues — migration, corruption, economic inequality — while others focus on foreign policy implementation, from the CIA’s secret war to former Ambassador Chris Hill’s experiences in Bosnia and Iraq. One even invites a lively discussion of trash. We almost added Bartow Elmore’s Citizen Coke (2015) to the list, but instead will have him speak at orientation.

Summer reading helps jump start your professional development and ensures breadth in your personal program. While each student selects major and minor concentrations, everyone needs to have some familiarity with all the areas we teach. Commerce students should know about security, diplomacy students about intelligence. And, everybody should understand how commerce (like the trash trade) can shape international engagement.

Many of our students have found that a tablet or e-reader can help make this assignment easier. Whether you are watching Wimbledon, Bonnaroo bound, or simply find yourself with a couple of spare hours at the beach or in the mountains, new technology can let you pack light. The new iPad Air 2 weighs less than a pound and all eight Summer Reading books are available as iBooks. Happy reading.


Paul Collier, Exodus: How Migration is Changing our World (2013)

Christopher Hill, Outpost: Life on the Frontlines of American Diplomacy (2014)

Mark Mazzetti, The Way of the Knife: The CIA, a Secret Army, and a War at the Ends of the Earth (2013)

Adam Minter, Junkyard Planet: Travels in the Billion Dollar Trash Trade (2013)

Thomas Piketty, Capital: In the Twenty First Century (2014)


SEE YOU IN AUGUST
2014 Reading List

- The Limits of Partnership
- Exodus
- The Way of the Knife
- Capital
- China Goes Global
- The Signal and the Noise
- Lean In
- Water

2013 Reading List

- China Goes Global
- The Future of Power
- Top Secret America
- Poor Economics
- Pakistan
- The Gun
- Dancing in the Glory of Monsters
- The Plundered Planet

2012 Reading List

- The End of Influence
- Oil, Dollars, Debt, and Crisis
- The Gun
- Dragon in the Tropics
- Dancing in the Glory of Monsters
- Poor Economics
- Pakistan

2011 Reading List

- Dancing in the Glory of Monsters
- Oil, Dollars, Debt, and Crisis
- The Gun
- Dragon in the Tropics
- Dancing in the Glory of Monsters
- Poor Economics
- Pakistan

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2010 Reading List

2009 Reading List

2008 Reading List

2007 Reading List

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