History

There are obviously many fields in history, but these texts are recommended as background reading until you specialize:

Black, J. Studying History.
Brogan, H. The Penguin History of the USA.
Cannadine, D. What is History Now?
Chang, I. The Rape of Nanking.
Cline, E. 1177, The Year Civilization Collapsed.
Davies, N. Europe: A History.
Diamond, J. Guns, Germs, and Steel.
Gibbon, E. The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire.
Guldin, J. The History Manifesto.
Kumin, B. The European World 1500-1800.
Mann, CC. 1493: Uncovering the New World Columbus Created.
Shirer, W. The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich.
Tzu, S. The Art of War.

Classical Studies

Beard, M. Pompeii.
Crawford, MH. The Roman Republic.
Euripides. Medea.
Hall, E. Introducing the Ancient Greeks.
Herodotus. The Histories.
Homer. The Iliad and The Odyssey.
Liberman, A. Word Origins and How We Know Them: Etymology for Everyone.
Morwood, J. Our Greek and Latin Roots.
Murray, O. Early Greece.
Ovid. Metamorphosis.
Plato. Republic.
Plato. Symposium.
Sharrock, A. Fifty Key Classical Authors.
Sophocles. Oedipus.
Taplin, O. Literature in the Greek and Roman Worlds.
Thucydides. The Peloponnesian War.
Toner, J. The Ancient World.
Virgil. Aeneid.
If you are planning to study literature, then you can choose to read any classic. The more you read the better. Please make sure you read as much American Literature as English Literature, that you read novels as well as plays and poems, and that you read from various periods.

The books below are often studied during the first year at university and therefore highly recommended:

Austen, J. *Persuasion.*
Bronte, C. *Jane Eyre.*
Bronte, E. *Wuthering Heights.*
Chaucer, G. *The Canterbury Tales.*
Conrad, J. *Heart of Darkness.*
Defoe, D. *Robinson Crusoe.*
Dickinson, E. *Selected Poems.*
Eliot, G. *Middlemarch.*
Eliot, T.S. *Selected Poems.*
Fitzgerald, F.S. *The Great Gatsby.*
Hardy, T. *Jude the Obscure.*
James, H. *The Turn of the Screw.*
Joyce, J. *Ulysses.*
Melville, H. *Moby Dick.*
Milton, J. *Paradise Lost.*
Shakespeare. *Any plays.*
Shelley, M. *Frankenstein.*
Stocker, B. *Dracula.*
Swift, J. *Gulliver’s Travels.*
Twain, M. *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn.*
Wilde, O. *The Picture of Dorian Gray.*

You may read any books by the following authors:
- Chinua Achebe
- Margaret Atwood
- Samuel Beckett
- Agatha Christie
- JM Coetzee
- Charles Dickens
- Henry Fielding
- Ernest Hemingway
- Washington Irving
- Norman Mailer
- Toni Morrison
- George Orwell
- Edgar Allan Poe
- Harold Pinter
- JD Salinger
- Edith Wharton
- Evelyn Waugh
- William Wordsworth
- Virginia Woolf

Finally, here are some secondary texts:
- Auerbach, E. *Mimesis: The Representation of Reality in Western Literature.*
- Bal, M. *Narratology: Introduction to the Theory of the Narrative.*
- Barry, P. *Beginning Theory: An Introduction to Literary and Cultural Theory.*
- Hawthorn, J. *Studying the Novel.*
- Leitch, VB. *The Norton Anthology of Theory and Criticism.*

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**Language Studies (English)**

- Bryson, B. *Mother Tongue.*
- Crystal, D. *A Dictionary of Linguistics and Phonetics.*
- Crystal, D. *The Cambridge Encyclopedia of Language.*
- Quirk, R. *The Use of English.*
- Simpson, P. *Stylistics: A Resource Book for Students.*
- Sportiche, D. *An Introduction to Syntactic Analysis and Theory.*
- Strunk, W. *The Elements of Style.*
- Stegner, W. *Creative Writing.*
- Van Gelderen, E. *A History of the English Language.*
- Yule, G. *The Study of Language.*