

November 25, 2015



Dear students, faculty and staff:

Each year, the University of Idaho engages its students in the Common Read. We are opening nominations for the **2016-17 Common Read**. You are invited to submit a title.

The Common Read is designed to engage all our first-year students in a unified intellectual activity to introduce them to academic expectations, respectful discourse and community building. Prior to arrival in Moscow, first-year students will be asked to read the book as part of their Integrated Seminar (ISEM) 101. The Common Read committee seeks nominations of books, regardless of genre, that accomplish the following:

- Promote engagement on a topic relevant to the university community, and especially incoming first-year students. The topic should be of a broad interest across the university community.
- Given the breadth of audience, the book should be accessible, enjoyable, engaging, yet challenging.
- It should provide an opportunity to inspire students intellectually to learn, engage and lead, to take ownership of their University of Idaho educational experience in critical and creative ways.
- Provide diverse points of view, experiences, or other content that would promote sustained discussion.
- Provide multi- or inter-disciplinary perspectives, allowing students, staff and faculty from differing academic disciplines to find points of intellectual convergence and integration as they address the topic of the book.
- Address most, if not all, of the five University of Idaho Learning Outcomes.
- Hold the possibility that the author of the book (or someone closely associated with the book) could come to the Moscow campus and give a keynote address or presentation on the book.

Past selections have included works of fiction, history, race and culture, the immigrant experience, economics and the environment, and political discourse.

Please send your nomination (book title and author, and addressing each of the criteria listed above) to [commonread@uidaho.edu](mailto:commonread@uidaho.edu) by **Monday, Dec. 14, 2015**. The committee will begin its review Dec. 15, and will continue to seek proposals until a suitable book is chosen.

For a list of past selections and the criteria for selection, please see <http://www.uidaho.edu/class/general-education/common-read>

Thank you in advance for your nominations.

***Kenton Bird***

Director, General Education

Chair, Common Read Committee