

Expanded LCC-Style Great Books List

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For literature, here's my one-year, multum non multa reading list with a Western focus:

Genesis
The Iliad or the Odyssey (if only one, the Odyssey)
a selection of Greek dramas
Gospels and Acts
Ovid's Metamorphoses (selections, perhaps)
Beowulf
Sir Gawain and the Green Knight
General Prologue and The Wife of Bath's Tale (Canterbury Tales)
Shakespeare: A Midsummer Night's Dream, Hamlet, Richard III, a handful of sonnets
British poets (MP has a decent program)
19th-century British novels: Pride & Prejudice, Jane Eyre, Great Expectations

If you want a two-year World Literature approach, add:

Ramayana (abridged/retelling)
Bhagavad Gita
Shakuntala by Kalidasa
The Tragedy of Sohrab (from the Shahnameh)
Tang Dynasty poets
Tale of Genji (selections)
Atsumori by Zeami
Popul Vuh
Monkey (Journey to the West abridgment)
Basho
Epic of Sundiata
a selection of short stories (Dover Publications has several good anthologies that include authors beyond the Euro/US standards)

The Norton Anthology of World Literature is fantastic, and you could easily do a two-year reading sequence just from that.