Inquiring minds and passionate readers are invited to explore works of the world’s biggest thinkers and finest writers. Monthly themes offer the opportunity to explore a variety of works and historical periods. Participants read selections from the listed titles, and those so inspired are encouraged to read the complete works.

Stimulating discussions in a friendly, welcoming setting, moderated by Michael Bartlett, journalist/editor and Glenview resident. For questions or inquiries, contact Michael at 773-220-2553 or mbartlett11@yahoo.com.

Participants are responsible for obtaining their own materials.

Meets Second Wednesday of Every Month
10-11:30 AM • Community Room East
New Members Welcome
Just Drop In
JANUARY 8
American Foundations
• The Declaration of Independence
• The Constitution of the United States of America
• The Federalist Papers
Theme—One of the oldest topics in philosophy: What is the best form of government?

FEBRUARY 12
1984 by George Orwell
Theme—Plato’s Progeny: Utopias and the 20th-Century Dystopian Novel

MARCH 11
The Odyssey by Homer
Theme—Essentials of the world’s great epic poems: Gilgamesh to the Kalevala

APRIL 8
Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man and Ulysses by James Joyce
Theme—How great thinkers and writers draw from earlier creators to reinvent an idea or story

MAY 13
Mrs. Dalloway by Virginia Woolf
Theme—The early 20th-century high point of the stream of consciousness novel

JUNE 10
“Prologue” and “Wife of Bath’s Tale” from The Canterbury Tales by Geoffrey Chaucer
Theme—Medieval literature and the art of the narrative poem

JULY 8
Discourse on Method and The Meditations by Rene Descartes
Theme—The birth of modern philosophical method and epistemological inquiry

AUGUST 12
King Lear by William Shakespeare
Theme—Tragedies: Sophocles to Arthur Miller

SEPTEMBER 9
Archetypes and the Collective Unconscious by Carl Jung
Theme—The development of psychology and its relationship to Platonic forms

OCTOBER 14
Uncle Tom’s Cabin by Harriet Beecher Stowe
Theme—Birth of the social novel and the power of fiction to persuade

NOVEMBER 11
Walden by Henry David Thoreau
Theme—Journals and Diaries: Marcus Aurelius to Winston Churchill

DECEMBER 9
• The Stranger and The Myth of Sisyphus by Albert Camus
Theme—Twentieth-century existentialism and the search for meaning