

MPHMUN Reading List 2020

9th Grade MPH MUN students are expected to read their ONE mandatory book (Mountains Beyond Mountains) and are encouraged to read ONE additional book from the list below. Additionally, it is highly recommended that you read the news and stay up to date on global affairs. Be prepared to discuss the books in class on the first day of school. Here are some of the questions you will be expected to address:

1. What is the main thesis of the book? How does the author(s) define the problem? What evidence do they cite to support their claims?
2. As best you can determine, what is the author's perspective? How does the author's perspective impact the argument they are trying to make, if it does at all?
3. Who does the author think you are (the reader)? What assumptions do they make about the person reading the book?
4. How does the book relate to issues involving the United Nations? What role, if any, is the UN playing currently to address the issues in the book? What specific UN bodies are involved in the issue?
5. What ideas or scenes in the book, if any, resonated in your being? Why do you think this was the case?

REQUIRED

1. *Mountains Beyond Mountains: The Quest of Dr. Paul Farmer, a Man Who Would Cure the World* by Tracy Kidder (2003)

CHOOSE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

1. *The End of Ice: Bearing Witness and Finding Meaning in the Path of Climate Disruption* by Dahr Jamail
2. *Without You, There Is No Us: Undercover Among the Sons of North Korea's Elite* by Suki Kim 2015
3. *Epidemic: Ebola and the Global Scramble to Prevent the Next Killer Outbreak.* By Reid Wilson
4. *The Condemnation of Blackness: Race, Crime, and the Making of Modern Urban America.* By Khalil Gibran Muhammad
5. *Behind the Beautiful Forevers: Life, Death, and Hope in a Mumbai Undercity* by Katherine Boo (2012)

While the book listed below is **NOT** required reading, it would be good to read it this summer so that you can have a better understand of the inner workings of the UN. Below this listing are recommended sites for keeping up with global affairs.

An Insider's Guide to the UN by Linda Fasulo (2004).

Council on Foreign Relations: <https://www.cfr.org/newsletters/daily-news-brief>

Al-Jazeera: <https://www.aljazeera.com/>

NYT video (the newspaper requires subscription): <https://www.nytimes.com/video>