

SUMMER READING COURSE LINK

CHOICE TITLES

COURSE TITLE	The Spirit of American Literature
GRADE	10
TITLE	<i>Digital Fortress</i>
AUTHOR	Dan Brown
GENRE	Suspense/Thriller

DESCRIPTION

When the NSA's invincible code-breaking machine encounters a mysterious code it cannot break, the agency calls its head cryptographer, Susan Fletcher, a brilliant, beautiful mathematician. What she uncovers sends shock waves through the corridors of power. The NSA is being held hostage -- not by guns or bombs -- but by a code so complex that if released would cripple U.S. intelligence. Caught in an accelerating battle of secrecy and lies, Fletcher battles to save the agency she believes in. Betrayed on all sides, she finds herself fighting not only for her country but also for her life, and, in the end, for the life of the man she loves.

REQUIRED STUDENT RESPONSE

Students will compose a compare/contrast essay about choices and consequences using the main character from a summer reading book and a character from one of the short stories in the opening unit of the year.

SUGGESTED STUDENT RESPONSE

Through a journal or log, students need to trace the major decisions of the main characters, as well as the consequences of those decisions. These journals/logs will be used for discussions and completion of a graphic organizer during the first days of school.