



Dear Member of the Class of 2022:

Welcome to St. Bonaventure University. As your Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, my primary role is to ensure that you experience a vibrant, challenging, and engaging learning environment. With this in mind, I am assigning your first assignment as a student at St. Bonaventure.

You received a copy of the All Bonaventure Reads (ABR) book for 2018, *Educated: A Memoir*. The author, Dr. Tara Westover, will visit campus to discuss this book with you in the fall. It will also be a text for your SBU 101 course. When you read *Educated* this summer, we hope you will be inspired to reflect on the power of education to impact individuals and communities. After you finish reading the book, write a reflection essay. This essay is required for your SBU-101 seminar. Your topic is described below:

- ❖ Reflecting on examples from the book and your own experiences, write your essay discussing the question: **What does it mean to be “educated?”** Some questions you might think about when preparing your essay could include:
 - How and where does learning happen?
 - Who influences learning? How?
 - How can learning something new impact people?
 - How can attending college change people?
 - How can education affect a community? (A community could include a family, social group, town/city, etc.)
- ❖ You do not need to answer all of these questions but, hopefully, they can help you brainstorm or outline your essay.
- ❖ Your essay should be 500 – 750 words; be sure to include your full name at the top of the paper.
- ❖ Submit your essay as an attachment in MS Word by emailing it to: bonareads@sbu.edu

Your essay is due no later than Friday, August 17. We will send your essay to your SBU 101 instructor. Also, a team of faculty and staff will select the best essays among your class. Winners will have their essays published and be invited to an exclusive dinner with Dr. Westover.

I look forward to receiving your essay. Welcome to the exciting world of college thinking!

Sincerely,

Joseph E. Zimmer, Ph.D.

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs