

Before you begin *Acts of Faith* by Eboo Patel, we wanted to let you know a little about the book and how the First-Year Text will be integrated into your first year at Loyola.

SUMMER READING

Reading *Acts of Faith* is your first official assignment at Loyola. This is required reading for all incoming students and serves as a way to connect you with your classmates as you begin your Loyola Experience.

The First-Year Text is an opportunity to take responsibility for your own learning—one of the keys to success at Loyola. Make sure you read *Acts of Faith* before August 21 and arrive on campus prepared to discuss its story. At the New Student Convocation, you'll hear your first academic lecture at Loyola as well as participate in a faculty-student discussion afterwards, which both focus heavily on *Acts of Faith*.

One of the foundations of a Loyola education is knowledge coupled with reflection and action. You will have many opportunities throughout the year to talk about and examine the issues and themes presented in *Acts of Faith*, and discover ways to put your beliefs, skills, and values into action in our Loyola community and beyond.

Learn more about the First-Year Text at LUC.edu/fye.

READING TIPS

- Don't skip the introduction or afterword—these sections will enrich the story.
- Practice active reading—read with a pen in hand and write thoughts or questions as you read.
- Talk about the book with others doing so will help you see how the themes are present in your own life.
- Keep your book with you—read when you can: on the train, on the couch, or at the beach.

"The first-year text is a taste of what Loyola stands for and it allows you to engage with the Loyola mission when you first step foot on campus."

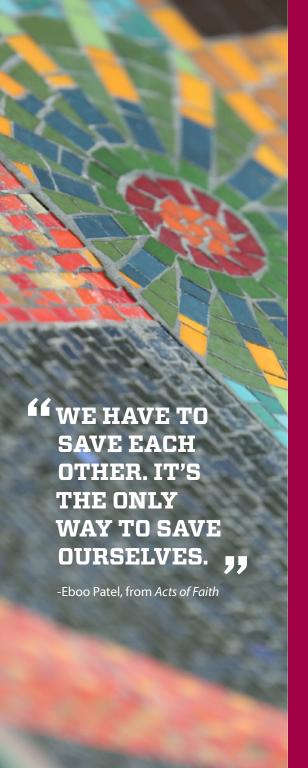
-Kate McFeeley, Class of 2017

"The best part about reading the firstyear text was having a common talking point with other students when we first moved in."

-Kelsey Cheng, Class of 2017



Preparing people to lead extraordinary lives



MORE ON THE FIRST-YEAR TEXT ACTS OF FAITH

Why does Loyola require me to read a book over the summer?

Regardless of the school, family, or neighborhood you hail from, coming to Loyola will be a significant transition. Reading *Acts of Faith* over the summer will aid you in that transition by:

- Helping you better understand the values that characterize the Loyola Experience
- Keeping your reading and analytical skills sharp
- Providing you with a common touchstone, shared with every other incoming Rambler
- Initiating a year-long conversation about the book's themes of inclusion and pluralism

Why did Loyola pick this book?

Each incoming class reads a book that in some way reflects the values of Loyola. *Acts of Faith* was selected by a committee of students, faculty, and staff for its readability and themes, including:

- Diversity and pluralism
- Mind- and heart-expanding opportunities in college
- Faith development
- Multicultural and multifaith relationships
- Finding your purpose if life

How will Acts of Faith be integrated into my first year at Loyola?

You will find the book used in many places throughout your first year:

- New Student Convocation and faculty-led discussion groups on August 21
- The First-Year Essay Contest (submit an essay by September 16 for a chance to win a scholarship for spring semester books)
- First-year courses such as:
 - UCWR 110: College Writing Seminar
 - UNIV 101: First Year Seminar
 - UNIV 102: Loyola Seminar
 - UCLR 100: Interpreting Literature
- Communities in Conversation events (lectures, films, panels, and service events throughout the year) all based on the themes from *Acts of Faith*
- · Classroom and informal discussions with friends, faculty, and staff