**The 5 Elements of Effective Thinking**
By: Burger, Edward B., Michael Starbird  
BF441 .B9247 2012  
Review from: *ForeWord Magazine* August 1, 2012  
... Chapter by chapter, Burger and Starbird introduce the five elements and demonstrate how to harness them to become more probing, analytical thinkers. *The Five Elements of Effective Thinking* is a useful guide for anyone interested in tackling difficult subject matter, particularly in the classroom. The book also could serve as a solid supplementary text in courses on critical thinking.

**The Honest Truth about Dishonesty**
By: Ariely, Dan  
BJ1533 .H7 A75 2012  
What motivates dishonesty? In his latest book, Ariely explains the psychological and economic factors that drive people to lie and cheat. He explores the rational cost-benefit forces that propel dishonesty, such as the amount of money to be gained, the probability of being caught, and conflicts of interest. Ariely writes thoughtfully and his sense of humor is evident throughout the book. A quick and easy read, this is for anyone who wants to learn about the psychological and economic causes of dishonesty.

**Unflinching Courage: Pioneering Women Who Shaped Texas**
By: Hutchison, Kay Bailey  
CT3262 .T4 H88 2013  
Review from: *Publisher's Weekly* February 25, 2013  
Former U.S. Senator Hutchison was the first woman to represent Texas in the Senate, and she’s admirably devoted her authorial career to writing women back into the historical record. Taking a local history approach that incorporates her family’s Texas roots, Hutchison emphasizes the independent spirit of Texans who rose up against Mexican rule and who carved out a living from the rugged landscape.

**Plutocrats**
By: Freeland, Chrystia  
HB251 .F74 2012  
Review from: *Library Journal* December 1, 2012  
... This book uses the super-rich as a way to understand the world economy, and Freeland condemns neither plutocrats nor the capitalist system that created them. Using numerous interviews and meetings with, as well as numerous journalistic sources about, the super-elite, she shows how this group has changed over time, how the gap between the one and the 99 percent has grown wider, and how plutocrats often use their political muscle to enlarge their share of the pie and close off opportunities for average Americans to reach the same level of wealth.

**Coolidge**
By: Shlaes, Amity  
E792 .S53 2013  
Review from: *Library Journal* June 1, 2013  
A popular misconception surrounding President Calvin Coolidge holds that he was a dull enigma who presided over the roaring 1920s. Shlaes... casts fresh light on the strong character of the man. His restraint and poise in not allowing increased spending, in reducing the federal budget, and in dealing with public unions are just a few reasons that he is experiencing a resurgence in popularity among conservatives. The research is extensive, and the story is carried along at an enjoyable pace.
Ike’s Bluff: President Eisenhower’s Secret Battle to Save the World
By: Thomas, Evan
E835 .T44 2012

Review from: Library Journal September 1, 2012
President Eisenhower has enjoyed sustained attention in the past few years (e.g., in Jean Edward Smith’s Eisenhower in War and Peace, among others). Now Thomas (journalism, Princeton Univ.; The War Lovers) has produced yet another valuable examination of Eisenhower as a crafty politician who navigated the treacherous waters of the early Cold War period with guile and cleverness, using the same competitive skills he displayed in his bridge and poker games to keep the peace with America’s intransigent foes. Thomas’s narrative is filled with insights, and his sources—both primary and secondary—are impressive. He depicts Eisenhower as a leader who had seen up close the destruction of war and who was committed to keeping the world from descending into another world war...

Mom and Me and Mom
By: Angelou, Maya
PS3551. N464 Z46 2013

Review from: Publisher’s Weekly January 21, 2013
Written with her customary eloquence, Angelou’s latest focuses on her relationship with her mother, the fierce, beautiful, charismatic, and determined Vivian Baxter—dubbed “Lady” by the 13-year-old Angelou (I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings) upon their reunion… Over her lifetime, Baxter was a boarding house owner, a gambler, a registered nurse, a pioneering sailor, and head of Stockton Black Women for Humanity; wise and generous, she wasn’t opposed to threats and violence, when necessary. There are difficult times (including a violent, disturbing episode between Angelou and a jealous boyfriend), as well as triumphs, such as Angelou’s job as the first African-American female streetcar conductor, obtained thanks to Baxter’s encouragement. The book follows in the episodic style of Angelou’s earlier volumes of autobiography, pulling the reader along effortlessly...

Farmscape: The Changing Rural Environment
By: Swander, Mary
PS3569 .W253 F37 2012

Review from: Booklist October 15, 2012
… The voices here describe the perpetual challenges and change of farm life and its personal impacts. Commentary follows the script, accompanied by black-and-white photographs evoking times past. Testimonies cover the struggles and opportunities of three different (at times antagonistic) types of agriculture: direct-market farming, undifferentiated commodity-market farming (one or two bulk commodities sold to food chains), and differentiated, branded-product farming (Eden Farms, Berkshire Pork). … As this chorus of disparate voices somehow connect, Swander creates a unique achievement: a volume that records how this oral history and theater project has helped fuel positive change and dialogue in Iowa. Now, in book form it just may do the same on a national level.

An Epidemic of Absence: A New Way of Understanding Allergies and Autoimmune Diseases
By: Velasquez-Manoff, Moises
QR181.7 .V45 2012

Review from: Booklist September 1, 2012
Why, after science conquered such contagious diseases as typhoid and tuberculosis, are humans experiencing an alarming upsurge of debilitating allergies and life-threatening autoimmune disorders?… Velasquez-Manoff’s engaging global study examines the boons and risks associated with the hypothesis that more parasites might prevent and possibly cure many illnesses, ranging from diabetes to depression. If you read one book about friendly parasites this season, let this be the one.

Hope in a Jar: The Making of America’s Beauty Culture
By: Peiss, Kathy
TT957 .P45 2011

Review from: School Library Journal December 1, 1998
A fascinating look at the history of cosmetics in America. The author traces public opinion and practices regarding the use of makeup from colonial days when only fallen women “painted” to modern standards that almost require women to use some sort of commercial enhancement to succeed socially and professionally… Early advertisements for products with outrageous claims and deadly ingredients are presented along with recipes for cosmetics that were traditionally made in the kitchen, while later advertisements include a World War II-era lipstick promotion that claimed it was women’s patriotic duty to preserve femininity through the use of makeup during wartime. The varied attempts to market cosmetics to men are also examined, as are the opportunities the beauty industry afforded entrepreneurial women who were not traditionally welcomed in the business world. A thought-provoking and informative book.