

Sample

INDEPENDENT STUDY ASSIGNMENT: TOPICS & RELATED READINGS

FOR: “MULTICULTURAL LITERATURE” -- WOMEN WRITERS & FEMALE PROTAGONISTS --

- Below are the topics with their related readings for all components of the Independent Study Assignment in this course (= ___% of your final mark). **Choose 1 topic and at least 2 of the related readings (one of which must be a novel). Unless otherwise specified by your teacher, your key fiction sources must be the ones listed below with their respective topic.**
- The topics are listed randomly below. Each of the three readings per topic respectively includes the following details: the author’s name, the text’s title, and the first year of that text’s publication.
- No more than two students may choose the same topic.
- Your written formal research essay of 1000 to 1200 words is due w/o penalty at the end of the class on _____. To be eligible to pass the essay you must cite from at least 2 key fiction and 2 nonfiction sources; quotations from the former must be balanced.

1. THE ABUSIVE PARENT / PARTNER

Alice Walker, *The Color Purple* (1982)*
Ying Chen, *Ingratitude* (1995) *
Edwidge Danticat, *Breath, Eyes, Memory* (1994)*

2. PRESSURES AFFECTING WOMEN

Zaynab Alkali, *The Stillborn* (1984)
Julia Alvarez, *In the Time of the Butterflies* (1995)
Amy Tan, *The Kitchen God’s Wife* (1991)

3. THE DOWNTRODDEN IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD

Beverly Naidoo, *Chain of Fire* (1989)
Edwidge Danticat, *The Farming of Bones* (1998)
Dionne Brand, *At the Full and Change of the Moon* (1999)*

4. ADOLESCENCE / YOUTH

Marlene Nourbese Philip, *Harriet’s Daughter* (1988)
Ntozake Shange, *Betsey Brown* (1985)*
April Sinclair, *Coffee Will Make You Black* (1994)*



LEGEND:

* Denotes a text recommended for “mature” readers.