

INDEPENDENT STUDY REFERENCE LIST

TITLE 1	TITLE 2
1984 (Orwell)	Handmaid's Tale (Atwood)/Lord of the Flies (Golding) – futuristic tales, dystopias, styles of governing; Battle Royale (Takami)—ruthless totalitarian government; Fahrenheit 451 (Bradbury)—totalitarian government bans books and reading
A Clockwork Orange (Burgess)	Flowers for Algernon (Keyes)--scientific experiments on humans
A Fine Balance (Mistry)	Poisonwood Bible (Kingsolver)--balance, social class distinction, family relationships; caste system in India; post-colonial Africa & missionary zeal
A Spot of Bother (Haddon)	Still Alice (Genova)—dealing with illness; Alzheimers
Age of Innocence (Wharton)	House of Mirth (Wharton)—elite New York social life 1870's OR Rules of Civility (Towles)--New York 1938, elite social class
Alias Grace (Atwood)	Tess of the D'Urbervilles (Hardy)--sexual discrimination of females in historical time periods; poor families The Remains of the Day (Ishiguro)—social class, male-female relationships
All Families are Psychotic (Coupland)	The Corrections (Franzen)—dysfunctional families; psychological fiction
All Quiet on the Western Front (Remarque)	Red Badge of Courage (Crane)--WWI—life in the trenches, the effects of war; cowardice
All the Pretty Horses (McCarthy)	Crossing & Cities of the Plain (McCarthy)/ The Road (McCarthy)—journeys of discovery/adventure/survival
Animal Farm (Orwell)	Watership Down (Adams)—governing styles/leadership; animal tales; allegories; political satire
Anna Karenina (Tolstoy)	Vanity Fair (Thackeray)—living outside the social morals in 19 th century Russia/19 th century Britain social climbing without morals; Bring up the Bodies (Mantel)—16 th century Britains's downfall of Boleyn family
Ash Garden (Boch)	Fugitive Pieces (Michaels)—atomic bomb in Hiroshima (how lives collide); escape during Holocaust and effects
Babbitt (Sinclair Lewis)	The Weekend Man (Wright)—urban angst, middle class emptiness (America 1920's/Canada 1970's)
Bell Jar (Plath)	I Never Promised You a Rose Garden (Greene)—coping with mental illness; depression; schizophrenia; psychological fiction
Blindness (Saramago)	Children of Men (P.D. James)—dystopian fiction/post-apocalyptic fiction; struggle to survive desperate circumstances
Bluest Eye (Morrison)	Beloved (Morrison)--African American girls; definition of beauty; aftermath of slavery, post US Civil War
Brave New World (Huxley)	Delirium (Oliver)—dystopian novels; social control; examination of love, happiness
Burning Ground (Luke)	Judith/Tent Peg (Van Herk); Canadian forestry, mining in the Canadian Arctic; lives of women
Captain Corelli's Mandolin (de Bernieres)	Farewell to Arms (Hemingway)—war, romantic relationships; cynicism of soldiers
Catcher in the Rye (Salinger)	On the Road (Kerouac)—rebellious, leaving home, journeys of self-discovery, freedom and longing; The Rum Diary (Thompson)—love, lust, alcoholism; It's Kind of a Funny Story (Vizzini)—finding identity in New York prep school, psychiatric ward/

	confronting anxiety
Cider House Rules (Irving)	A Widow for One Year/Garp (Irving); family relationships, love stories, betrayal; women authors (Widow)
Clara Callan (Laurence)	A Jest of God (Laurence)—small town Canada 1930s; female protagonists longing for love and coping with tragedy or deceit
Cold Mountain (Fraser)	This Rock (Morgan)—Appalachian mountains, brothers, dreams, family relationships/You Went Away (Findley)—separation of men and women during war—effect on relationships
Color Purple (Walker)	I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings (Angelou)—racism, abuse, female relationships, deep American South
Contact (Sagan)	Last and First Men (Olaf Stapledon, 1930)—science fiction: futuristic look at human encounters in space; exploration of human civilization and species as evolved over billions of years
Crow Lake (Larson)	No Great Mischief (MacLeod)—Canadian rural settings: connection to rural homes, family relationships; theme of loyalty
Crucible (Miller)	Shunning (Marianne Paul)—witchhunting/clairvoyance
Crystal Cave (Stewart)	Hollow Hills (Stewart)—Arthurian legend; mentorship
Disobedience (Hamilton)	Catcher in the Rye (Salinger)—family bonds, dysfunction; rebels, journeys of self-discovery; family relationships
Divine Secrets of the YaYa Sisterhood (Welles)	Joy Luck Club (Tan)/ White Oleander (Fitch)—mother/daughter relationships; loss; rejection; coming of age
Dr. Jeckyl and Mr. Hyde (Stevenson)	Death of a Salesman (Miller)—shattered dreams; struggle between good and evil
Dune (Herbert)	Sequel: Dune Chronicles--science fiction: extra-planetary governance/war
English Patient (Ondaatje)	Wars (Findley)—WW1 & 2/intertwining lives/romance/aftermath
Fahrenheit 451 (Bradbury)	1984 (Orwell)—totalitarian regimes Shades of Grey (Jasper Fforde)—social hierarchy determined by colour perception
Fall on Your Knees (MacDonald)	Cure for Death by Lightning (Dargatz); family saga of love, betrayal, violence, suffering (early 1900's); coming of age, family dysfunctions: abuse, violence, bullying
Fionavar Tapestries (Guy Gavriel Kay)	Summer Tree, Wandering Fire, Darkest Road (Kay)-- five University of Toronto students meet a mysterious man who takes them on an epic journey to a whole new world: Fionavar (<i>Novelist</i>)
French Lieutenant's Woman (Fowles)	Scarlet Letter (Hawthorne)—discrimination of women re: sexual behavior (early 1800's colonial New England/Victorian England)
Gates of Fire (Pressfield)	Tides of War (Pressfield)--sagas of the Greeks and their leadership during ancient times
Girl with a Pearl Earring (Chevalier)	Girl in Hyacinth Blue (Chevalier); historical exploration and legacy of painter Vermeer; power of art to endure disaster, upheaval
Great Expectations (Dickens)	Jude the Obscure (Hardy)/ David Copperfield (Dickens) –social class, 19 th century England; discoveries of love in impoverished settings Grapes of Wrath (Steinbeck)—a family in poverty searching for prosperity (Great Depression, America)
Hard Times (Dickens)	Bleak House (Dickens)—19 th century industrial England philosophy of utility vs. imagination/ individual evil vs. the evil of the system
Heart of Darkness (Conrad)	Headhunter (Findley)--examines evil, corruptness in society (makes allusions to <i>Heart of Darkness</i> which chronicles isolation in the jungle, capacity for savageness) Mosquito Coast (Theroux)--isolation from society; moves family, searching for better

	life in the jungle A State of Wonder (Patchett)—life of an outsider/researcher in the jungle
The Help (Stockett)	Scotsboro (Feldmen)—racism in American South (1930s/1960s); false accusations of crime
Hunchback of Notre Dame (Hugo)	Les Miserables (Hugo)—15 th century France/19 th century French Revolution: the marginalized in society and their impacts on others
The Imposter Bride (Richter)	??Barney’s Version (Richler)—both set in Montreal, deal with immigrants and true vs. false identities
Jane Eyre (Bronte)	The Turn of the Screw (James) – gothic fiction, governesses, secrets
Joy Luck Club (Tan)	Like Water for Chocolate (Esquivel)—Chinese/American mother-daughter relationships, romances, culture clashes (<i>Joy</i>); Mexican social customs, cooking, romantic relationships (<i>Like Water</i>)
Little Bee (Cleave)	The Memory of Love (Forna)—African/British settings; terrors of civil war, post-colonial Africa; dealing with atrocities and terror
Lives of the Saints (Ricci)	In a Glass House (Ricci)—family relationships, cultural differences, immigration (Italy to Canada)
Lord of the Flies (Golding)	Coral Island (Ballantyne)—British boy castaways on islands, societies that they create
Lust for Life (Stone)	Agony and the Ecstasy (Stone)—life of the artists Vincent Van Gogh and Michaelangelo: real life vs. creation (art)
Map of the World (Hamilton)	Book of Ruth (Hamilton)—rural American families, tragic events, alienation, violence
Memoirs of a Geisha (Golden)	Snow Country (Kawabata)—Japanese geishas seeking love; Breakfast at Tiffany’s (Capote)—country American girl in New York in a world of wealthy men; The Buddha in the Attic (Otsuka)—Japanese “picture brides” immigrate to San Francisco (early 20 th century)
Mercy Among the Children (Richards)	Cat’s Eye (Atwood)--dealing with childhood/adulthood bullying; pacifism
Moby Dick (Melville)	The Old Man and the Sea (Hemingway)/ Heart of Darkness (Conrad)--power struggle between humans and sea creatures/jungle
Of Mice and Men (Steinbeck)	Grapes of Wrath (Steinbeck)—struggle to survive in American Great Depression; hope for American Dream
Once and Future King (White)	Mists of Avalon (White)—legend of Arthur becoming King (medieval England)/female perspective of Arthurian legend
One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest (Kesey)	I Never Promised You a Rose Garden (Greene)—struggle of coping with mental illness; exploration of human mind; life in psychiatric institution
Passage to India (Forster)	A Room with A View (Forster)—early 20 th century English social snobbery; women marrying for love
Possession (Byatt)	According to Mark (Lively)—modern academics delving into Victorian England literary mystery/curiosity; romance The Rebel Angels (Davies)—academics examining mystical secrets; colourful characters, romance
Power of One (Courtney)	Cry the Beloved Country (Paton)—South African settings; racial tensions and abuse; mentors
Prayer for Owen Meany (Irving)	Saint Maybe (Tyler)—experiences of accidents, guilt, search for meaning, atonement
Pride & Prejudice (Austen)	Sense and Sensibility (Austen)—Victorian England; finding suitable marriages based on love and equality, not social status
The Reader (Schlink)	The Trial (Kafka)—life-changing trials and the repercussions for the accused

River Thieves (Crummey)	Last of the Mohicans (Cooper)—racism: Native populations and white intervention (Canadian and American settings)
Robinson Crusoe (Stevenson)	Lord of the Flies (Golding)—castaways on islands/survival/ isolation vs. society
Room (Donoghue)	Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime (Haddon)—child narrators; parent-child relationships, kidnapping, escape The Collector (Fowles)—kidnapping; relationship between kidnappers and victims
The Russlander (Birdsell)	Sweeter than All the World (Wiebe)—Mennonite historical fiction, religious persecution
Saint Joan (Shaw)	A Man for All Seasons (Bolt)
Sarah`s Key (de Rosnay)	Half-Blood Blues (Edugyan)--racism during WWII; The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Society (Shaffer and Barrows)—post WWII unlikely character connections; The Reader (Schlink)—secrets from WWII come to trial
Soldier of the Great War (Helperin)	A Farewell to Arms (Hemingway)—recollections of WWI and how it alters soldiers; romance during WWI
Stone Angel (Laurence)	East of the Mountains (Guttersen)—elderly protagonists reflecting on poignant and difficult life experiences
Stone Diaries (Shields)	Larry`s Party (Shields) or Stone Angel (Laurence)—family sagas, relationships; reflection on past
Summer Gone (McFarlane)	Larry`s Party (Shields)—father-son relationships/alienation; love experienced, shattered and remembered
Tess of the d`Urbervilles (Hardy)	The Scarlet Letter (Hawthorne)—sexual discrimination of females; historical time periods (British and American)
Things Fall Apart (Achebe)	No Longer at Ease (Achebe)—African setting; fall from grace, clash of individual and society/cultures/social class/changing times
Things They Carried (Tim O`Brien)	Buffalo Afternoon (Schaeffer)/ All Quiet on the Western Front (Remarque)—Vietnam war: soldiers` experiences, difficulties returning home; soldiers` experiences on the front (WWI—Quiet)
Thousand Splendid Suns (Hosseini)	Swallows of Kabul—Afghanistan setting/backdrop of war: male dominant societies; generations of family and friendship
Three Musketeers (Dumas)	Man in the Iron Mask (Dumas)—chivalry, wit, sword-fighting, secrecy re: kingship in 17 th century France;
Time Machine (Welles)	Frankenstein (Shelley)—science fiction: future of two different races at odds; scientific experimentation: man vs. monster
The Time Traveler`s Wife (Niffenegger)	My Name is Memory (Brashares)—romantic couples deal with the obstacles that time presents (time-travel, crossing centuries, dynasties, continents)
To Kill a Mockingbird (Lee)	Snow Falling on Cedars (Guterson)—racism: deep American South in 1930`s/ Japanese internment in America
The Twelve Tribes of Hattie (Mathis)	Some People, Some Other Place (Cooper)—racism from American South: characters settle in new places (northern States); family sagas; following dreams
Two Solitudes (MacLennon)	The Town Below (Lemelin)--mid 20 th century Quebec settings; difficulty with love, cultural/social identity
Uncle Tom`s Cabin (Stowe)	Confessions of Nat Turner (Styrone)—slavery in American South; bondage, escape, imprisonment; relationships with masters
Underpainter (Urqhart)	My Name is Asher Lev (Potok)—passion of artists; conflict between art and religion
Unless (Shields)	Diviners (Laurence)—mother-daughter relationships; struggles of a maturing female writer; small town Canadian prairie life, marital struggles
Where the Heart Is (Letts)	A Student of Weather (Hay)—sibling rivalry/first love/teenage pregnancy/ abandonment

Wizard of Earthsea (Le Guin)	Sequel: The Tombs of Atuan (Le Guin)—fantasy: a sorcerer's apprentice unleashes evil and must deal with the consequences; isolation
Wuthering Heights (E. Bronte)	Jane Eyre (C. Bronte)—18 th century Britain: marriage, passion; orphaned governess & secrets (Jane Eyre)
You Went Away (Findlay)	In Country (Mason)—reflections on the effects of war, loneliness, disintegration of family (WWII/Vietnam War)