## 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; Farenheit 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 <sup>th</sup> century Russia/19 <sup>th</sup> century Britain social climbing without morals; Bring up the Bodies (Mantel)—16 <sup>th</sup> 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)—rebelling, 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	A Widow for One Year/Garp (Irving); family relationships, love stories, betrayal;
(Irving)	women authors (Widow)
Clara Callan	A Jest of God (Laurence)—small town Canada 1930s; female protagonists longing for
(Laurence)	love and coping with tragedy or deceit
Cold Mountain	This Rock (Morgan)—Appalachian mountains, brothers, dreams, family
(Fraser)	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	Hollow Hills (Stewart)—Arthurian legend; mentorship
(Stewart)	
Disobedience	Catcher in the Rye (Salinger)—family bonds, dysfunction; rebels, journeys of self-
(Hamilton)	discovery; family relationships
Divine Secrets of the	Joy Luck Club (Tan)/ White Oleander (Fitch)—mother/daughter relationships; loss;
YaYa Sisterhood	rejection; coming of age
(Welles)	
Dr. Jeckyl and Mr.	Death of a Salesman (Miller)—shattered dreams; struggle between good and evil
Hyde (Stevenson)	
Dune (Herbert)	Sequel: Dune Chroniclesscience fiction: extra-planetary governance/war
English Patient	Wars (Findley)—WW1 &2/intertwining lives/romance/aftermath
(Ondaatje)	
Fahrenheit 451	1984 (Orwell)—totalitarian regimes
(Bradbury)	Shades of Grey (Jasper Fforde)—social hierarchy determined by colour perception
Fall on Your Knees	Cure for Death by Lightning (Dargatz); family saga of love, betrayal, violence,
(MacDonald)	suffering (early 1900's); coming of age, family dysfunctions: abuse, violence, bullying
Fionovar Tapestries	Summer Tree, Wandering Fire, Darkest Road (Kay) five University of Toronto
(Guy Gavriel Kay)	students meet a mysterious man who takes them on an epic journey to a whole new
	world: Fionavar (Novelist)
French Lieutenant's	Scarlet Letter (Hawthorne)—discrimination of women re: sexual behavior (early 1800's
Woman (Fowles)	colonial New England/Victorian England)
Gates of Fire	Tides of War (Pressfield)sagas of the Greeks and their leadership during ancient times
(Pressfield)	
Girl with a Pearl	Girl in Hyacinth Blue (Chevalier); historical exploration and legacy of painter Vermeer;
Earring (Chevalier)	power of art to endure disaster, upheaval
Great Expectations	Jude the Obscure (Hardy)/ David Copperfield (Dickens) –social class, 19 <sup>th</sup> century
(Dickens)	England; discoveries of love in impoverished settings
	Grapes of Wrath (Steinbeck)—a family in poverty searching for prosperity (Great
	Depression, America)
Hard Times	Bleak House (Dickens)—19 <sup>th</sup> century industrial England philosophy of utility vs.
(Dickens)	imagination/ individual evil vs. the evil of the system
Heart of Darkness	Headhunter (Findley)examines evil, corruptness in society (makes allusions to <i>Heart</i>
(Conrad)	of Darkness which chronicles isolation in the jungle, capacity for savageness)
	Mosquito Coast (Theroux)isolation from society; moves family, searching for better

A State of Wonder (Patchett)—life of an outsider/researcher in the jungle  New Forms of an outsider/researcher in the jungle  List Miserables (Hugo)—15th century France/19th century French Revolution: the marginalized in society and their impacts on others  Pame (Hugo)  The Imposter Bride (Richter)  The Imposter Bride (Richter)  Joy Luck Club (Tan)  Like Water for Chocolate (Esquivet)—Chinese/American mother-daughter relationships, romances, culture clashes (Joy); Mexican social customs, cooking, romanic relationships (Like Water)  Little Bee (Cleave)  Again and the Coat (Richards)  Societies and terror  Little Bee (Cleave)  Agony and the Estasy (Stone)—life of the artists Vincent Van Gogh and Michaelangelo: real life vs. creation (art)  Meroirs of a Geisha  (Golden)  Breakfast at Tiffany's (Capo		life in the jungle
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Map of the World (Hamilton)  Map of the World (Hamilton)  Memoirs of a Geisha (Golden)  Mercy Among the Children (Richards)  Moby Dick (Melville)  Off Mice and Men (Steinbeck)  Once and Future King (White)  One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest (Kesey)  Passage to India (Forster)  Possession (Byatt)  Power of One  Michaelangelo: real life vs. creation (art)  Mody Dick (Richards)  Michaelangelo: real life vs. creation (art)  Book of Ruth (Hamilton)—rural American families, tragic events, alienation, violence (art)  Book of Ruth (Hamilton)—rural American families, tragic events, alienation, violence (art)  Book of Ruth (Hamilton)—rural American families, tragic events, alienation, violence (art)  Book of Ruth (Hamilton)—rural American families, tragic events, alienation, violence (art)  Snow Country (Kawabata)—Japanese egishas 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 <sup>th</sup> century)  Cat's Eye (Atwood)—dealing with childhood/adulthood bullying; pacifism  Cat's Eye (Atwood)—dealing with childhood/adulthood bullying; pacifism  The Old Man and the Sea (Hemingway)/ Heart of Darkness (Conrad)—power struggle between humans and sea creatures/jungle  Grapes of Wrath (Steinbeck)—struggle to survive in American Great Depression; hope for American Dream  Mists of Avalon (White)—legend of Arthur becoming King (medieval England)/female perspective of Arthurian legend  I Never Promised You a Rose Garden (Greene)—struggle of coping with mental illness; exploration of human mind; life in psychiatric institution  A Room with A View (Forster)—early 20 <sup>th</sup> century English social snobbery; women marrying for love  Possession (Byatt)  A Room with A View (Forster)—early 20 <sup>th</sup> century English social snobbery; women marrying for love  According to Mark (Lively)—modern academics delving into Victorian England literary mystery/curiosity; romance  The Rebel Angels (Davies)—academics exam		
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Memoirs of a Geisha (Golden)		Book of Ruth (Hamilton)—rural American families, tragic events, alienation, violence
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	Power of One	
(Courtney)   mentors	(Courtney)	mentors
Prayer for Owen Saint Maybe (Tyler)—experiences of accidents, guilt, search for meaning, atonement		Saint Maybe (Tyler)—experiences of accidents, guilt, search for meaning, atonement
Meany (Irving)	1	
Pride & Prejudice Sense and Sensibility (Austen)—Victorian England; finding suitable marriages based		Sense and Sensibility (Austen)—Victorian England; finding suitable marriages based
(Austen) on love and equality, not social status	S	
The Reader (Schlink) The Trial (Kafka)—life-changing trials and the repercussions for the accused	The Reader (Schlink)	The Trial (Kafka)—life-changing trials and the repercussions for the accused

River Thieves	Last of the Mohicans (Cooper)—racism: Native populations and white intervention
(Crummey)	(Canadian and American settings)
Robinson Crusoe	Lord of the Flies (Golding)—castaways on islands/survival/ isolation vs. society
(Stevenson)	
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	Sweeter than All the World (Wiebe)—Mennonite historical fiction, religious
(Birdsell)	persecution
Saint Joan (Shaw)	A Man for All Seasons (Bolt)
Sarah`s Key (de	Half-Blood Blues (Edugyan)racism during WWII; The Guernsey Literary and Potato
Rosnay)	Peel Society (Shaffer and Barrows)—post WWII unlikely character connections; The
<b>3</b> /	Reader (Schlink)—secrets from WWII come to trial
Soldier of the Great	A Farewell to Arms (Hemingway)—recollections of WWI and how it alters soldiers;
War (Helperin)	romance during WWI
Stone Angel	East of the Mountains (Guttersen)—elderly protagonists reflecting on poignant and
(Laurence)	difficult life experiences
Stone Diaries	Larry's Party (Shields) or Stone Angel (Laurence)—family sagas, relationships;
(Shields)	reflection on past
Summer Gone	Larry's Party (Shields)—father-son relationships/alienation; love experienced, shattered
(McFarlane)	and remembered
Tess of the	The Scarlet Letter (Hawthorne)—sexual discrimination of females; historical time
dÙrbervilles (Hardy)	periods (British and American)
Things Fall Apart	No Longer at Ease (Achebe)—African setting; fall from grace, clash of individual and
(Achebe)	society/cultures/social class/changing times
Things They Carried	Buffalo Afternoon (Schaeffer)/ All Quiet on the Western Front (Remarque)—Vietnam
(Tim O'Brien)	war: soldiers' experiences, difficulties returning home; soldiers' experiences on the
	front (WWI—Quiet)
Thousand Splendid	Swallows of Kabul—Afghanistan setting/backdrop of war: male dominant societies;
Suns (Hosseini)	generations of family and friendship
Three Musketeers	Man in the Iron Mask (Dumas)—chivalry, wit, sword-fighting, secrecy re: kingship in
(Dumas)	17 <sup>th</sup> century France;
Time Machine	Frankenstein (Shelley)—science fiction: future of two different races at odds; scientific
(Welles)	experimentation: man vs. monster
The Time Traveler's	My Name is Memory (Brashares)—romantic couples deal with the obstacles that time
Wife (Niffenegger)	presents (time-travel, crossing centuries, dynasties, continents)
To Kill a	Snow Falling on Cedars (Guterson)—racism: deep American South in 1930's/
Mockingbird (Lee)	Japanese internment in America
The Twelve Tribes of	Some People, Some Other Place (Cooper)—racism from American South: characters
Hattie (Mathis)	settle in new places (northern States); family sagas; following dreams
Two Solitudes	The Town Below (Lemelin)mid 20 <sup>th</sup> century Quebec settings; difficulty with love,
(MacLennon)	cultural/social identity
Uncle Tom's Cabin	Confessions of Nat Turner (Styrone)—slavery in American South; bondage, escape,
(Stowe)	imprisonment; relationships with masters
Underpainter	My Name is Asher Lev (Potok)—passion of artists; conflict between art and religion
(Urqhart)	
Unless (Shields)	Diviners (Laurence)—mother-daughter relationships; struggles of a maturing female
	writer; small town Canadian prairie life, marital struggles
Where the Heart Is	A Student of Weather (Hay)—sibling rivalry/first love/teenage pregnancy/
(Letts)	abandonment

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