

Women's Literature Summer Assignment 2022

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Rationale:

The goal of this class is to explore texts written by women through a range of lenses including race, class, culture, politics, gender identity and sexual orientation. Your summer reading is designed to get you thinking about themes and questions that will drive our daily class discussions.

Assignment:

Read the following essay by Roxane Gay: <https://www.vqronline.org/essay/bad-feminist>

Note: This essay is the basis for a larger compilation of essays by Roxane Gay in the book *Bad Feminist*. If you enjoyed this essay, I encourage you to get the book and read other essays in the collection.

1. After reading the book and watching/listening to another source on the theme, write a 1-2 page response on the following questions. You will turn this in during the second class of the year.
 - a. Tell me a bit about yourself (anything you want to share). How do you like to spend your time? What brings you joy?
 - b. What is your relationship with reading? Do you enjoy reading independently outside of school (it's okay if you don't)? What type of books do you gravitate towards? Do you prefer to read in English? Spanish? Another language?
 - c. Why did you choose to sign up for this class? Is there a particular topic you are hoping we discuss in class or concept you want to learn more about?
 - d. Is there anything you would like me to know about you that it would be helpful for me to know right away that might help me better understand and support you as a student?
 - e. Choose three passages or ideas from the essay *Bad Feminist* that grabbed your attention. Explain why you chose each passage. Do you agree or disagree with it? Why? Is it something you hadn't considered before? Something that makes you angry or uncomfortable? Is it something you would like to learn more about or discuss in class? Please be thoughtful and specific (go beyond "it was interesting").

*Please note that Sparknotes, Cliffsnotes, or similar reading guides are not permitted in this class, including for summer reading. If you are dependent on these, this likely is not the correct class for you.