

9th Grade Summer Reading: Read a Book, or Two or Three...

In the Time of the Butterflies by Julia Alvarez [ISBN: 978-1565129764]

A Very Large Expanse of Sea by Tahereh Mafi [ISBN: 978-0062866578]

I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter by Erika L. Sánchez [ISBN: 978-1524700515]

This year, we have decided to offer you a choice of three different novels from which to choose your summer reading. While you need only read one of the options to meet your summer reading requirement, we encourage you to read as much as possible over the summer. All three novels are considered Young Adult novels, and we believe that each novel will engage you in interesting ways.

Essential Questions:

- **How does what we know about the world shape the stories we tell?**
- **How do the stories we tell about the world shape the way we view ourselves?**
- **How do our personal experiences shape our view of others?**
- **What does it mean to be an insider or an outsider?**
- **Are there universal themes in literature that are of interest or concern to all cultures, societies, genders, ages?**
- **What is the relevance of studying multicultural texts?**
- **What factors shape our values and beliefs?**
- **Why do we need beliefs and values?**
- **To what extent do belief systems shape and/or reflect culture and society?**

Suggestions for Reading:

Part of being a good and active reader is annotating texts as you read them. As you read, you should be looking for the answers to the **essential questions**. Your summer reading assessment will require you to use your knowledge of the novel to answer these essential questions. Our focus for Summer Reading is supporting your enjoyment of reading, so we are not requiring that you highlight and annotate in a detailed manner; however, we do encourage you to make notes in your book.

The following is a list of some techniques that you can use as you read:

- Look up words you do not know and annotate their definitions. You might encounter in each of the books words or phrases in another language; we encourage you to find out what they mean.
- Write questions in the margins for any passage you do not understand.
- Mark anything you think is interesting, surprising, or important.
- Think about connections between this text and other texts you have read, information from other classes, and personal experiences.

NOTES:

- Consulting online guides (such as Wikipedia or Sparknotes) as a supplement to or a substitute for reading the book **violates the Honor Code**.
- You will need a hard copy, not an e-book, of all books required for this class.
- Students must annotate on a clean version of the novel; students may not use a marked/used copy.