

Incoming 11th and 12th Graders**Summer
Assignment**

Next year, the lens through which we will perceive each work of literature we read is *The African Diaspora: Cultural Implications and Awareness*.

This term grapples with the question, “*What does it mean to be Black in America and in the World?*” *The African Diaspora* describes the dispersal of people of African descent, their role in the transformation and creation of new cultures, institutions, and ideas outside of Africa, and the problems of

building a Pan-African movement across the globe. Therefore, while reading, think about how the characters in the novels deal with the consequences and cultural implications of the African Diaspora such as (slavery, colonialism, racism, sexism, xenophobia, etc.).

Assignment Options:**Part I: (Required for all incoming 12th graders.)**

- ★ Mandatory College Essay
- ★ Open the document and complete the assignment.

Part II: Optional/Extra Credit

- ★ **Book Review**

Choose one book from the list below and write a **five paragraph book review** in which you:

- Introduce the work and your presumptions about it before reading it.
- Discuss what you believe to be the author’s purpose in writing the work
- Discuss the book’s highpoints and shortcomings (if any)
- Discuss *how* the author has enlightened you about the African Diaspora and its cultural implications
- Discuss whether or not you would recommend the work and to whom.

Submit the assignment via Google Classroom on or before **Friday, September 14, 2018**.

Classic and Contemporary Quicker Reads related to the African Diaspora

Title	Author	# of pages
<u>Breath, Eyes, Memory</u>	Edwidge Danticat	234
<u>Between the World and Me</u>	Ta-nehisi Coates	176
<u>Kindred</u>	Octavia E. Butler	264
<u>Letters to a Young Brother: <i>Manifest Your Destiny</i></u>	Hill Harper	176
<u>Lose Your Mother: A Journey Along the Atlantic Slave Route</u>	Saidiya V. Hartman	288
<u>Love</u>	Toni Morrison	224
<u>Open City</u>	Teju Cole	259
<u>Purple Hibiscus</u>	Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie	307
<u>Schooling Hip Hop: Expanding Hip-Hop Based Education across the Curriculum</u>	Marc Lamont Hill; Emery Petchauer	208
<u>The Classroom and the Cell: <i>Conversations on Black Life in America</i></u>	Mumia Abu Jamal; Marc Lamont Hill	166
<u>The Color Purple</u>	Alice Walker	295
<u>The Mis-Education of the Negro</u>	Carter G. Wells	215
<u>The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness</u>	Michelle Alexander	290

More Challenging Classic and Contemporary Novels and Memoirs related to the African Diaspora

Title	Author	# of pages
<u>Black Pain: <i>It Just Looks Like We're Not Hurting</i></u>	Terrie M. Williams	309
<u>Ghana Must Go</u>	Taiye Selasi	336
<u>Dreams from My Father</u>	Barack Obama	464
<u>Invisible Man</u>	Ralph Ellison	608
<u>Manchild in the Promised Land</u>	Claude Brown	416
<u>Makes Me Wanna Holler: <i>A Young Black Man in America</i></u>	Nathan McCall	432
<u>Native Son</u>	Richard Wright	462
<u>On Beauty</u>	Zadie Smith	445
<u>The Autobiography of Malcolm X</u>	Malcolm X, Alex Haley	466
<u>The Bluest Eye</u>	Toni Morrison	224
<u>The Book of Negroes</u>	Lawrence Hill	512
<u>The Book of Night Women</u>	Marlon James	417
<u>Their Eyes Were Watching God</u>	Zora Neale Hurston	256