

Feminist Profile Assignment

Each student in the class will choose a specific feminist and create a detailed profile of the feminist.

Required Readings

These readings all come from *The Essential Feminist*, and are divided into two categories. The first, *Feminists Ahead of Their Time*, is a selection of works written well before the marked beginning of feminism, but represent that feminist ideals run much further back in history than we often consider. The second, *Feminists of Note*, is a selection of works from feminists whose names became household names as feminist theory grew from its infancy in 1792 through the 1980s.

Feminists Ahead of Their Time

- Christine de Pizan, *The Book of the City of Ladies*
- Francois Poullain de la Barre, *On the Equality of the Two Sexes*
- Sor Juana Ine's de la Cruz, "The Reply to Sor Philotea"
- Mary Astell, *A Serious Proposal to the Ladies*

Pioneering Feminists

- Mary Wollstonecraft, *A Vindication on the Rights of Women*
- Elizabeth Cady Stanton, "Declaration of Sentiments and Resolutions"
- Sojourner Truth, Two Speeches, 1851 and 1867
- Susan B. Anthony, "Social Purity"
- Anna Julia Cooper, *A Voice from the South*
- Margaret Sanger, *Woman and the New Race*
- Virginia Woolf, "Three Guineas"
- Simone de Beauvoir, *The Second Sex*
- Betty Friedan, *The Feminine Mystique*
- Helene Cixous, "The Laugh of the Medusa"
- Audre Lorde, "The Master's Tools Will Never Dismantle the Master's House"
- Monique Wittig, "One is Not Born a Woman"
- Adrienne Rich, "Notes Toward a Politics of Location"
- Gloria Anzaldua, "La Conciencia de las Mestizas: Toward a New Consciousness"

Pay close attention to the readings that pique your interest among the Pioneering Feminists. You will choose one of these women for your profile assignment, and you want that woman to be somebody you are interested in learning more about.

Learning Outcomes Met

This assignment works toward the following learning outcome(s):

Outcome 1: explicate the role of key feminist theorists and activists in developing feminist critical theory

This outcome is achieved with successful completion of the profile, achieving a grade of B or better. You will achieve a grade of B or better by working toward the following assignment-specific objectives:

- construct an informative background of the philosopher's life
- Identify and summarize the philosopher's crucial works
- trace the influence of the philosopher on feminist theory
- compile a bibliography of the scholar's works and relevant resources about these works

Assignment Details

You will begin this assignment by completing the required reading (listed below) and selecting a feminist theorist about whom you want to learn more. Email me [ablackwellst@lamar.edu] your choice . I will assign scholars on a first come basis, so check the list below before emailing me your choice, and have a back up in case your first choice falls through.

Once you have approval for your feminist, you will want to begin conducting research into the subject. You need to gather information on the life, writing, activism, and legacy of the subject. You will then synthesize this research and write a wiki-style profile for your feminist. Your entry should include:

- a brief biography of personal details and details relevant to the subject's feminist legacy
- notable works with brief summary of each work
- influence on feminist theory
- MLA formatted bibliography of the subject's feminist works
- list of relevant and credible web sources
- identifiable citations for each work contributing to your work, with links when available

Remember that you are writing a *wiki-style* entry. I plan, with your individual permissions, to compile a wiki of feminist scholars using an outside host. Students who achieve an A on their feminist profile before the end of this semester will be invited to include their materials. Thus, for this assignment, you need not follow MLA formatting for the body of the work, though you need to keep the bibliography and relevant citations in MLA format.

Rubric

You may view the rubric for this assignment by opening this assignment (in LULearn) and selecting the "view rubric" button at the top left. You can locate a printable version of the rubric [here](#).

Deadlines and Revisions

The **final** deadline for this assignment is 01 May; however, I recommend you not postpone submission until this date. You should plan ahead to submit the assignment in time to receive revision feedback. *I recommend that you submit a working draft, with all components of the assignment, no later than 04 March.*