

Syllabus
LBSC 646
Young Adult Literature
Spring, 2011

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Course Description:

This course is a survey of literature and digital resources for older children and adolescents. We will review criteria for evaluating and using such materials as they relate to the needs, interests, reading and other capabilities of today's adolescent.

Course Objectives:

- Students will achieve an understanding of the critical history, trends, and issues in literature and other materials for older children and adolescents.
- Students will apply understanding of the research-based developmental aspects of older children and adolescents to their reading and library use.
- Students will demonstrate knowledge of important authors, genre, issues, and evaluation strategies of the course topic through their class discussion, assignments, and projects.

Required Textbook and Non text Materials

Text

Literature for Today's Young Adults, 8/E

Nilsen & Donelson

©2009 | Allyn & Bacon | Published: 04/07/2008

ISBN-10: 0205593232 | ISBN-13: 9780205593231

Selected readings will be assigned from the text. It is available at the Campus Book Store. Students will reflect individually upon the readings and keep a response log.

Articles

Selected articles regarding Young Adult Literature will be assigned and can be found on Blackboard. Students will reflect individually upon the readings and discuss the articles as a group.

Core Books

Students will be required to read all of the core books. These books can be found at public libraries and school library media centers. Students will respond to the books with designated answers to questions and discussion circles as detailed on Blackboard. Books should be read in this order.

Core Book List: LBSC 646 Spring, 2011

The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton
 The Chocolate War by Robert Cormier
 Hatchet by Gary Paulsen
 Whale Talk by Chris Crutcher
 Speak by Laurie Halse Anderson
 The Watsons Go to Birmingham, 1963 by Christopher Paul Curtis
 Holes by Louis Sachar
 The Book Thief by Marcus Zuzak
 The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins
 Annie on My Mind by Nancy Garden or Am I Blue edited by Marian Dane Bauer
 The Absolutely True Diary of a Part Time Indian by Sherman Alexie
 Esperanza Rising by Pam Munoz Ryan
 Ash by Malinda Lo
 Born Confused by Tanuja Desai Hidler
 Monster by Walter Dean Myers
 Tyrell by Coe Booth
 Persepolis by Marjane Satrapi
 American Born Chinese by Gene Luen Yang

Course Requirements and Assignments

Each assignment has a folder in Blackboard with all explanations and requirements.

Core Books (45 points)

Each week a designated student will facilitate discussion of the assigned Core Book. The student will come prepared with discussion starters, questions, and reflections on the book.

Response Log (25 points)

Students will reflect individually upon the chapters in the Nilsen and Donelson text and keep a written response log. The log is to be turned in by May 3, 2011.

Articles (25 points)

Students will read the weekly article in order to participate more fully in class discussions. Students will be responsible for five written responses for articles throughout the semester besides participating in online discussions regarding selected articles. Prompts for the articles will be posted by the instructor.

Genre Selection and Presentation (25 points)

Students will work as a group to present information and conduct a 30-minute discussion on their required genre and related books to be shared with the class. Presenting past the allotted time will result in points taken off.

Teen Culture Project (25 points)

Students will individually create a 10 minute digital project reflecting what they have learned regarding a specific aspect of teen culture. Presenting past the allotted time will result in points taken off.

Young Adult Author Study (25 points)

Students will give a 15 minute oral presentation on a selected young adult author, including a live book talk on one of three works read and an original brochure about the writer and works. Presenting past the allotted time will result in points taken off.

Attendance and Class Participation (30 points)

- Active participation in discussion of articles
- Active participation in discussion of core books
- Regular contributions to class and online discussions.
- Students must communicate with the instructor if it is necessary to miss class. If more than one class is missed, even if work is turned in, points will be taken off.

Course Grades

Total points earned will be converted to a letter grade using the following scale:

A 96-100	B- 79-81
A- 90-95	C+ 75-78
B+ 86-89	C 71-74
B 82-85	C- 68-70

More Detailed Weekly Class Meeting Schedule will be distributed at the first class.

Please Note: The Instructor reserves the right to adjust or revise the syllabus at any time during the course of the semester.

