

**Media for Adolescents
LSC 855
Course Outline
Spring, 2009**

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Course Description:

This course is a survey of literature and other materials 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 young readers.

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 CUA Book Store.

Students will reflect individually upon the readings and keep a response log.

Articles

Selected articles regarding Media and Adolescent Literature will be assigned and can be found on Blackboard. Students will reflect individually upon the readings and discuss 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.

The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton
The Chocolate War by Robert Cormier

Hatchet by Gary Paulsen
 Silver by Norma Fox Mazer
 The Watsons Go to Birmingham, 1963 by Christopher Paul Curtis
 Whale Talk by Chris Crutcher
 Number the Stars by Lois Lowry
 The Giver by Lois Lowry
 The Absolutely True Story of a Part Time Indian by Sherman Alexie
 The Uglies by Scot Westerfeld
 The Skin I'm In by Sharon Flake
 Annie on My Mind by Nancy Garden
 Esperanza Rising by Pam Munoz Ryan
 Holes by Louis Sachar
 Silent to the Bone by E.L. Konigsburg
 Born Confused by Tanuja Desai Hidler
 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)

Written answers to “**Questions for YA Novels**” or “**Save the Last Word**” activity completed for each required core book. The instructor will determine which of the two activities is assigned to each 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 April 30.

Articles (25 points)

Students will read the weekly article and write a typed response to the appropriate prompt. This will be turned in each week after the class discussion.

Genre Selection and Presentation (25 points)

Students will work, plan and conduct a 20 to 30-minute discussion with their assigned group on their required genre and related books to be shared with the class.

Young Adult Author Study (25 points)

Students will give a 15 minute oral presentation on a selected young adult author, including a book talk on one of three works read and an original brochure about the writer and works.

Teen Culture Project (25 points)

Students will individually create a 10 to 15 minute digital project reflecting what we have learned regarding teen culture.

Attendance and Class Participation (30 points)

- Participation in discussion of articles
- Participation in discussion of core books
- Regular contributions to class discussions and other class activities
- Communication with instructor if necessary to miss class

Course Grades

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

A 95-100
A- 90-94
B+ 86-89
B 83-85

B- 79-82
C+ 75-78
C 71-74
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.

