

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
SCHOOL OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

Literature and Related Media For Young Adults
LIS 514

Eight-Week Summer Session
June 8-August 3, 2006
Mondays and Wednesdays
1:50-4:20 p.m.
Location: LCLI 357

INSTRUCTOR: Patricia M. Collins
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CREDIT HOURS: 3
CATALOG DESCRIPTION: A study of literature and related media for use with young people in grades 7-12. Emphasis is placed on the special characteristics and needs of young people and the evaluation of materials for this age group.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. To read widely and critically books intended for young adolescents and young adults
2. To determine who the young adolescent/young adult is and what his/her needs are
3. To become familiar with and proficient in the use of professional selection sources
4. To develop the ability to evaluate materials more critically and to use the materials in a creative, relevant manner
5. To learn to select appropriate books and materials for the changing needs and interests of grades 7-12 readers
6. To identify significant authors of adolescent/young adult literature
7. To understand and respond appropriately to issues related to censorship of materials for the adolescent/young adult reader

8. To examine and evaluate periodicals, informational books, and reference materials used by adolescent/young adult students
9. To acquire skills in the presentation of books and materials in a manner that will motivate students to form a life-long habit of reading and inquiry

- REQUIRED READINGS:**
1. Stipulated books selected by the instructor; student selections made from specific genre book lists
 2. Articles necessary for the completion of the Censorship Assignment

INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

Instructional activities will include lectures, discussions/presentations, guest speakers, cooperative learning experiences, school library media center visit (if possible), mid-term and final take-home exams, a periodical project, research activities, etc.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1. The major assignment of this class is to read across broad genres. Students should become familiar with multiple authors and learn to evaluate books critically and objectively. Thoughtful class discussion of required readings is expected.
2. (Due July 26) **ANNOTATED BOOK FILE**—Every student will be responsible for maintaining a file (specific format will be discussed) which must include bibliographical information, a brief synopsis, category designation, and a personal reaction to each book read. In addition, a related poem, appropriate for grades 7-12 readers, must be copied and included with each personal choice book synopsis; documentation for poems must be included as well.
3. (Due June 28) **CRITICAL ANALYSIS ASSIGNMENT**—Each student will sign up for a book from the Newbery Medal/Newbery Honor Book list or the Michael L. Printz Medal/Honor Book list to read. The book's copyright date should be within the last 10 years. Copies of three full-text reviews of your book from professional journals must be included as a part of this assignment. You will write an analytical paper assessing your book

according to the criteria outlined by the award committee. More specific and detailed information will be provided in class later.

4. **(Due June 26) ADOLESCENT AND YOUNG ADULT MAGAZINES**—Each student will sign up to evaluate two (2) magazines relevant to gr. 7-12 students. One magazine should be a title with potential curriculum usage. The assessment of this periodical should include a discussion of its strengths and weaknesses. The second title should be one selected primarily for recreational reading. Give a full description of its coverage, appropriateness, and target audience. A word-processed copy of your outline will be given to the instructor and an oral presentation will be given to the class. Please bring a copy of each magazine to demonstrate points.
5. **(Due July 10) CENSORSHIP ASSIGNMENT**—All students will be required to read five (5) articles (published since 1996) on the censorship of young people's literature. For each article, a brief summary with personal responses and reflections will be word-processed and turned in to the instructor. One page per article is the maximum length. Copies of the articles must accompany the reaction pieces. Each student will orally share one of his/her selected articles with the class.
6. **(Due July 5) MIDTERM PROJECT**
(Due Aug. 2) FINAL EXAM PROJECT
To be explained in detail later. They will be take-home projects. (Mid-term Project will be assigned on June 28 and due on July 5—Final Exam Project will be assigned on July 26 and due on Aug. 2)

COURSE EVALUATION:

Attendance and Class Participation--10%
Critical Analysis Assignment--10%
Magazine Evaluations--10%
Annotated Book File with Poems--30%
Censorship Activity--10%
Mid-Term and Final Exams--30%

GRADUATE STUDENT GRADE SCALE:

A = 93-100%
B = 85-92%
C = 75-84%
D = 70-74%
F = Below 70%

UNDERGRADUATE GRADE SCALE: Same as the College of Education Percentages

GRADING PROCEDURES AND ATTENDANCE POLICY:

- 1. This class involves active involvement on the part of all students in the class; therefore, points will be deducted from the class participation grade for excessive absences. More than two unexcused absences in the class will lower your grade.**
- 2. Extra credit assignments are not given in this course nor are grades of "I" (incomplete), except in extraordinary cases. Contact the instructor to discuss an "incomplete."**
- 3. Proper grammar, spelling, and punctuation are expected in all work.**

ACADEMIC HONESTY: All work during evaluations, on papers, or in other academic activities must be the student's work. Cheating, plagiarism, or other academic dishonesty is clearly a violation of academic standards and will be dealt with accordingly.

CLASS CALENDAR: The instructor reserves the right to adjust the class calendar if necessary to accommodate the proper completion of class requirements.

PROJECTED CALENDAR OF CLASS ACTIVITIES AND
ASSIGNMENTS

June 12-Aug. 2, 2006

LIS 514

- June 12** **ORIENTATION: Introductions; Explanation of the Syllabus; Establish Discussion Groups; Realistic Fiction Sign-up; Introduce Critical Analysis Assignment; Discuss reading lists; Informal Discussion of Adolescent Characteristics and Needs; Group Collaboration Time**
- June 14** **REALISTIC FICTION:**
Be Prepared to Discuss—*The Great Gilly Hopkins*, K. Paterson (1978)
***Missing May*, C. Rylant (1993)**
Select and Sign up for book for Critical Analysis Assignment
Introduce review media; clarify assignment
Literary Elements of Good Literature; Notes on Realistic Fiction
View Cynthia Rylant Video (optional)
Discussion Group Collaboration
- June 19** **REALISTIC FICTION:**
Be Prepared to Discuss--*The First Part Last*, A. Johnson (2003)
Sign up for 2 magazines for Discussion Assignment
Realistic Fiction Discussion Group Presentations
- June 21** **REALISTIC FICTION:**
Be Prepared to Discuss--*The Chocolate War*, R. Cormier (1974)
Video—An Interview with Robert Cormier
Biographical Sources for Authors
Sign up for Historical Fiction Discussion Group Choice
Realistic Fiction Discussion Group Presentations
- June 26** **MAGAZINE ASSIGNMENT/PRESENTATIONS**
Turn in Presentation Outlines
- June 28** **GUEST SPEAKER—Donna Travillian, Kentucky Department of Education**
Her role as State School Library Media Consultant, the status of the state LMC
Annual Report, the Kentucky Virtual Library (KVL) and its resources, new
goals for Kentucky school libraries, and additional timely issues of interest will
be addressed.
HISTORICAL FICTION:
Be Prepared to Discuss—*My Brother Sam is Dead*, J. & C Collier (1974)
***Goodnight, Mr. Tom*, M. Magorian (1981)**
Notes on Historical Fiction

**Historical Fiction Discussion Group Presentations
Mid-Term Project Assigned
Critical Analysis Assignment Due**

- July 3** **INDEPENDENT RESEARCH DAY**
- July 5** **HISTORICAL FICTION:**
Be Prepared to Discuss—*Nightjohn*, G. Paulsen (1993)
Out of the Dust, K. Hesse (1997)
**Historical Fiction Discussion Group Presentations
Sign up for Multi-Cultural Fiction Book Discussion Choice
Clarify Censorship assignment
Mid-Term Project Due**
- July 10** **CENSORSHIP ASSIGNMENT**
**Intellectual Freedom/Censorship Discussion— Possible Guest Speaker
Each student to report on one article orally—written summaries turned in
Sign up for individual Graphic Novel**
- July 12** **MULTI-CULTURAL FICTION**
Be Prepared to Discuss— *Bud, Not Buddy*, C. Curtis (1999)
**Notes on Multicultural-Cultural Fiction
Sign up for Fantasy/Science Fiction novel
Multi-Cultural Fiction Discussion Group Presentations**
- July 17** **MULTI-CULTURAL FICTION:**
Be Prepared to Discuss—*Music From a Place Called Halfmoon*, J. Oughton
(1995)
kira-kira, Cynthia Kadohata (2004)
**Multi-Cultural Fiction Discussion Group Presentations
Sign up for Biography title**
- July 19** **GRAPHIC NOVELS:**
Guest Panel/Class Discussion
**Amber Tongate—Tates Creek High School
Leigh Ann Guth—Lafayette High School
Becky Smith—Southern Middle School
Katie Camp—Lexington Public Library, Tates Creek Branch
Heather Dieffenbok—Lexington Public Library, Beaumont Branch**
**Each class member must select one Graphic Novel to read for class; lists
will be provided**
- July 24** **FANTASY/SCIENCE FICTION:**
Be Prepared to Discuss (select one)—*The Giver*, L. Lowry (1993) or
Gathering Blue, L. Lowry (2000) or
Messenger, L. Lowry (2003)

**Notes on Fantasy/Science Fiction
Fantasy/Science Fiction Discussion Groups
Sign up for Non-fiction title**

July 26

**FANTASY/SCIENCE FICTION:
Be prepared to Discuss—*The Gift Moves* by Steve Lyon
Guest Author—Steve Lyon
Finish presentations
Annotated Book File due
Final Exam Project Assigned**

July 31

**BIOGRAPHY AND AUTOBIOGRAPHY:
Notes on Biography
Be Prepared to Discuss Personal Choice Selection**

Aug. 2

**INFORMATIONAL BOOKS:
Notes on Non-Fiction for Adolescents
Adolescent Reference Sources, Print and Electronic
Be Prepared to Discuss Personal Choice Selection
Final Exam Due**