

ENG 471/540 Adolescent Literature

Spring 2004, LL 243, 1:40-2:55, TTh

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Office hours: Tuesday, Thursday 12:00-1:30 and by appointment

Texts:

1. *Literature for Today's Young Adults*, Sixth Edition, by Alleen Nilsen and Ken Donelson
2. *Join In: Multiethnic Short Stories*, edited by Don Gallo
3. *The Giver*, by Lois Lowry
4. *Holes*, by Louis Sachar

Twenty-one additional YA books of your choice--provided that the titles are in your textbook, or are categorized as young adult, adolescent or teen literature by a library, or are on the cart of books that I bring to class. Any other titles will need my approval beforehand. Do not use books that are from the high school canon (*Scarlet Letter*, *Old Man and the Sea*, etc.) just because they are used with teenagers; however, some books from the high school canon do fit the definition of YA lit, such as *Catcher in the Rye* and *A Separate Peace*, so be sure to check with me first. English Education has a large selection of YA literature from which you may choose, but since some titles will be very popular and we do not have multiple copies of most, you will need to procure books from libraries and other sources at times. **NOTE**** Long books (300+ pages will count as two books.** Fantasy books, for example, are very often longer than the average YA books.

Students will have the opportunity to publish reviews in both the *Journal of Adolescent and Adult Literacy* and in *The ALAN Review* as well as the opportunity to help with the preparation and publishing of *The ALAN Review*.

Grading:

540 (Graduate Students)

Students enrolled in ENG 540 will have an additional, four-part, twelve-point assignment. This is to write four full length reviews for publication in the *Journal of Adolescent and Adult Literacy*. These books will count on your total of 25.

Potential points

28	Daily Participation (minus 7 for each absence)
20	AZ Book Festival (graded by me and by your colleagues, too)
10	Reading Lists (5 each)
10	Author presentations (groups) (graded by me and by your colleagues, too)
5	Midterm exam
20	Unit design (individually or in pairs)
7	Final exam
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100 for 471	total points
112 for 540	

Grades by percentage of points

A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	below 60

Reading Lists

Your two reading lists will be turned in (1) just before the midterm and (2) just before the end of the term. Each list should have 12 YA books and complete all the requirements as detailed on the assignment sheet as to genre, summary, analysis and teaching ideas.

Participation, Attendance, Punctuality, and Late Work

Daily participation means not only that you are present and participating but also that you are prepared to participate. Failure to come to class reasonably ready to participate may result in losing up to half of that day's point, so be sure that you are ready with readings, literature circle assignments, poetry selections, short story familiarity or whatever is called for on that day.

As a teacher your attendance will have an influence on how adequately you meet the needs of your students, which is very difficult to accomplish when you are absent from school. Your attendance for this class should reflect your commitment to teaching.

Each absence will result in the deduction of seven participation points from your total points regardless of the reason for an absence. You will still be held accountable for what you missed. Visit with me by e-mail, by phone, or in person to take care of missed materials and assignments, but please note that it is not my responsibility to re-teach a class that you missed at your convenience.

Missing class more than three times may result in your failing the class.

You will have a limited number of opportunities for additional points by attending YA literature events that I identify. These will not be frequent enough to compensate for poor attendance.

Punctuality will also be important in your career as a teacher. Form the habit of being on time now. **Being late to class may result in the partial loss of participation points.**

Late work will only be accepted through a conference with me about why it is late and when you will have it finished. Late work may result in a lower grade.

Tentative Schedule: (We will adjust this schedule as needed during the term)

January

- T 20 Explanation of syllabus & reading lists. Individual book selection and first book review assigned: due on next Tuesday!! AZ Book Festival (April 3, Carnegie Park, www.azbookfestival.org) groups organized.
- Th 22 *LTYA* chp. 1 & 2.
- T 27 Review of 2003/2004 book due (emailed to me by the end of the day): Literature circles explained. Read *Holes* pages 1-58 for next time.
- Th 29 *Holes* literature circles 1-58

February

- T 3 *Holes* lit circles 59-119;
- Th 5 *Holes* lit circles 120-181;
- T 10 *Holes* lit circles 182-233; Reader Response Theory
- Th 12 *LTYA* chp. 7 Fantasy, Science Fiction, Utopias and Dystopias; *The Giver*;
- T 17; Graphic novels; *The Giver*; *LTYA* chp. 3 Pop Culture/ Mass Media;
- Th 19 AZ Book Festival group meetings on your own: attendance mandatory
- T 24 *The Giver*; *LTYA* chp. 4 The New Realism: Of Life and Problems
- Th 26 *The Giver* *LTYA* chp. 5 Romanticism & 6 Adventures, Mysteries, the Supernatural and Humor;

March

- T 2 AZ Book Festival prep
- Th 4 AZ Book Festival prep
- T 9 Unit design assignment;
- Th 11 Midterm test: First reading list due. Explain and choose groups for author presentations;
- T 16 SPRING BREAK
- Th 18 SPRING BREAK
- T 23 AZ Book Festival prep
- Th 25 *LTYA* chp. 12 Censorship; *LTYA* chp. 9 Nonfiction: Information, Poetry, and Drama; Poetry readings
- T 30 Poetry readings; Adjustment as needed

- April Th 1 AZ Book Festival dress rehearsal

APRIL 3, SATURDAY, ARIZONA BOOK FESTIVAL

- T 6 Come ready to discuss and write about “Into the Game,” “Fox Hunt,” “Eagle Cloud and Fawn,” “Next Month Hollywood,” “Viva New Jersey,” “No Win Phuong,” and “A Daughter of the Sea.”
- Th 8 *LTYA* chp. 8 History and History Makers; More of *Join In*
- T 13 Unit design workshop
- Th 15 *LTYA* chp. 10 Evaluating, Promoting and Using YA Books;
LTYA chp. 11 Literature in the English Classroom
- T 20 Adjustment as needed
- Th 22 Units due: discussion of units with class members-give a brief synopsis of your unit and a hard copy for everyone.
- T 27 Author presentations; Internet resources
- Th 29 Author presentations
- May T 4 Final class meeting: second book list due; Loose ends
- Th 6 12:20-2:10 Final exam