



15800 Calvary Road
Kansas City, MO 64147-1341

Syllabus

Course: EN201-Adolescent Literature
Credit: 3 Semester Hours
Semester: SP23 (Cycle 4 & 5) 16 weeks
Location: T & R 8:00-9:-20 am East Ed 105
Instructor: Krista Owen, krista.owen@calvary.edu

***About This Class:** This course is offered in two formats: in-person and online. Students registered for in-person attend the classes in person, online students attend the classes via the online classroom. For both in-person and online students, assignments, and interaction outside of the class period are done in the learning management system.

***About Changes to this Syllabus:** The instructor reserves the right to make changes to this syllabus at any time during the course, but any changes made will only be done after clearly communicating the need for the change and the specific change to be made via in-class announcement and Canvas announcement.

I. DESCRIPTION

Adolescent Literature focuses on literary narratives written for young adults. Students will read and analyze adolescent novels with a particular focus on the elements of literature as well as variation in author styles, culture, and young adult concerns. Students will likely come into contact with authors writing from unbiblical worldviews, so a key feature of this course is to train students to understand worldviews presented by the authors, take them captive to Christ, and respond to them in a biblical manner. (Prerequisite: EN112)

II. OBJECTIVES

A. General competencies to be achieved. You will:

1. Improve critical reading skills through critical analysis of literary texts (PLO 1; Assignments A–E).
2. Participate effectively in group discussions with emphasis on careful listening, critical thinking, and appropriate response (PLO 1, 3; Assignment A, C).
3. Develop the ability to research and write literary reviews (PLO 1–4; Assignments A–E).
4. Identify the various cultural, linguistic, and sociological characteristics as presented in the literary works (PLO 1; Assignments A–E).

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5. Evaluate individual literary works according to the biblical worldview (PLO 1, 3; Assignments A–E).

B. Specific competencies to be achieved. You will be able to:

1. Carefully read and analyze literary works from a number of cultures (PLO 1; Assignment A–E).
2. Apply the literary elements to literary works in discussion and research (PLO 1; Assignments A–E).
3. Compare and contrast the Biblical worldview with that of the authors studied (PLO 3; Assignments A–E).
4. Use literary research tools (PLO 1–4; Assignment D, E).
5. Analyze what makes a successful literary social media post.
6. Interact with the global reading community on social media from the biblical worldview
7. Interpret Young Adult literature using the lens of the Hero's Journey

III. REQUIRED MATERIALS

A. Required Textbooks

The Bible is a required textbook in every course at Calvary University. To facilitate academic level study, students are required to use for assignments and research an English translation or version of the Bible based on formal equivalence (*meaning that the translation is generally word-for-word from the original languages*), including any of the following: New American Standard (NASB), English Standard Version (ESV), New King James (NKJV), or King James (KJV). Other translations and versions based on dynamic equivalence (*paraphrases, and thought-for-thought translations like NLT and NIV*) may be used as supplemental sources. Please ask the professor if you have questions about a particular translation or version.

IV. REQUIREMENTS

A. Reading

We learn about reading by reading! This class is an **extensive reading class** which means that the whole goal is to read a lot and to enjoy doing it! Expect to spend the first 10 minutes of class reading. This does not mean that you can be 10 minutes late, or that you can read textbooks from other classes during this time, this is your guaranteed 20 minutes of reading time per week because you are expected to read at least 6 young adult books during these 16 weeks. 5 of these books will come from this list. One book will not come from this list and is one you will have to pick for yourself. Your final project should include a section on whether or not you recommend the book should be added to the list and explain why.

B. Discussing

We will engage in a lot of discussion about what we are reading. These will be divided into **general discussions, specific discussions, and social media discussions**. **General discussions** (part of your participation grade) are less structured and will take place at the beginning of class, after reading time, where you will spend 10 minutes talking with your classmates about what you are reading. **Specific discussions** (part of your participation grade) will be more structured and will focus on applying different elements of literature and to the YA genre in general and the book you are reading at that time in specific and will be based on ideas from the lectures for that week. **Social media discussions** will be discussions that take place on the platform goodreads and are open to the public at large.

C. Networking

Each week you will be expected to interact with some other reader on the goodreads platform. This can be someone in the class, or someone who has nothing to do with the class. Your goal is to connect with different readers and build a relationship that might one day be used to spread salt and light in a dark world.

D. Presenting

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You will present on two books in this course. One will be a traditional book presentation including typical literary elements such as characterization, diction, theme, and plot. The second will be a presentation on a book from the lens of the Hero's Cycle.

E. Other Assignment Policies

1. *Style Guide:* All class papers must follow the *MLA Handbook*, 8th edition.
2. *Plagiarism* is defined as copying any part of a book or paper without identifying the author. This also includes taking another person's ideas and presenting them as your own.
3. *Other forms of cheating* include copying another student's work, allowing a student to do your work, using notes instead of reading the literary works, basing your research essay on another essay, bringing cheat sheets or written information to a quiz or an exam, and working collaboratively with another student on individual assignments. This also includes handing in one essay for assignments given in two different courses to reduce the amount of student work. Please check with the professor if you have concerns or doubts about the academic approach you plan to take for an assignment.
4. *Late work:* -5% from the final grade per day late.
5. *Originality:* Students may not hand in one paper for two different courses—even if the paper has been altered in some way. Students may not hand in a paper that was written for another class in previous courses. All work must be completely new and written solely by the student.
6. *Absences:* Students are responsible for making up missed coursework. Watch the recorded class video to find out what was covered.

V. METHODS

- A. **Lectures, Discussions:** This course is balanced between lecture and discussion. Students are expected to participate in discussions. Online students will be given special instructions about how to participate in these discussions.
- B. **Reading and Writing:** All assignments listed below must be completed. Rubrics are used on all assignments and are visible on Canvas attached to each individual assignment.
- C. **Grading**

Possible Points for All Assignments:

Reading Reflections (6)	15%
Reading Interaction (16)	10%
Reading Exercises (16)	10%
Class Participation (16)	20%
Social Media Discussion (4)	10%
Book Presentation (2)	25%
Total	100 percent

The Grading Scale can be found in the University Catalog.

VI. TENTATIVE SCHEDULE (The professor may modify the schedule if necessary.)

	Topic	Due Dates <i>See Canvas for dates due</i>
Week 1	Tuesday: Go over syllabus, set up goodreads accounts Thursday: What is young adult literature?	• Pre-course Work •
Week 2	Tuesday: Lecture-writing style, diction, narrator Thursday: How does this apply to your current book?	•
Week 3	Tuesday: Lecture-Character and characterization Thursday: How does this apply to your current book?	•
Week 4	Tuesday: Plot structures Thursday: How does this apply to your current book?	•
Week 5	Tuesday: Setting and Conflict Thursday: How does this apply to your current book?	•
Week 6	Tuesday: Theme Thursday: How does this apply to your current book?	•
Week 7	Tuesday: Worldview Thursday: How does this apply to your current book?	•
Week 8	Tuesday: Presentations Thursday: Presentations	•

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Week 9	Tuesday: Hero's Journey intro: Known/Unknown: Call to Adventure & Supernatural aid Thursday: How does this apply to your current book?	•
Week 10	Tuesday: Hero's Journey threshold & Mentor Thursday: How does this apply to your current book?	•
Week 11	Tuesday: Hero's Journey challenges & temptations Thursday: How does this apply to your current book?	•
Week 12	Tuesday: Hero's journey: abyss & revelation Thursday: How does this apply to your current book?	•
Week 13	Tuesday: Hero's journey transformation and atonement Thursday: How does this apply to your current book?	•
Week 14	Tuesday: Hero's Journey: return Thursday: How does this apply to your current book?	•
Week 15	Tuesday: Hero's Journey vs. Biblical Worldview Thursday: Presentations	•
Week 16	Tuesday: Presentations Thursday: Post-Class Evaluation	•

VII. Resources:

- A. **Disabilities:** Students with disabilities have the responsibility of informing the Accommodations Support Coordinator (aso@calvary.edu) of any disabling condition that may require support.
- B. **The Clark Academic Center** (learning@calvary.edu), located in the library building, is dedicated to providing free academic assistance for all Calvary University students. Student tutors aid with all facets of the writing process, tutor in various subject areas, prepare students for exams, and facilitate tests. Please take advantage of this free service.