ENGLISH 3306: Young Adult Literature Hybrid Wednesday

Instructor: Pamela Herron  
Semester: Fall 2016  
Day & Time: W 1:30 – 14:50 p.m. Aug – Dec 2016. Please note this is a hybrid class meeting once a week for 80 minutes. Review the absentee policy and Blackboard/Online etiquette policy carefully to make sure you understand expectations and consequences.

CRN: 12101  
Classroom: Hudspeth 200  
Credits: 3  
Office: Hudspeth 209  
Office Hrs: 2:50 – 3:50 MW and by appointment.  
Phone: 747-5702  
E-Mail: pgstover@utep.edu Please note that contact by UTEP email is the best way to reach me.

Texts: See attached book list.

Purpose: This course is a survey of major works of fiction that appeal to the young adult reader with emphasis on contemporary novels and short stories. It is designed to help you understand and appreciate various texts through critical analysis and discussion. Students will be exposed to a variety of texts from different genre. We will examine and analyze elements of literature in the texts including character, setting, plot structure, theme, style and use of symbolism and archetypes. Please note this course focuses on a multicultural and diverse list of books.

Procedure: The course will focus on the assigned texts and may include other assigned material. These books will serve as the springboard for individual, small group, and whole class discussion and analysis. Students are also expected to read and analyze other texts for presentation to the class. Please read all assignments thoroughly and carefully, so that others can learn from your interpretations and you can learn from the interpretations of others through class discourse.

Grading Scale: A = 450-500 points; B = 374-449 points; C = 273-373 points, D = 172=272 points; F = 171 points and below

Assignments:
- Annotated notes and short reflective papers or Blackboard discussions on each of the texts (11 assignments approx. 1000 words at 25 pts. each for a total of 250 pts. Lowest assignment grade may be dropped.)
- AssIGNED papers are due the same day the book is to be discussed in class. Books may also include online discussion that may be assigned instead of or in addition to the paper. Word count and bibliography MUST be included on each paper. Papers are submitted through SafeAssign on Blackboard so make it your responsibility to learn to use it properly.
- Students will write 3 analytical papers (1500 words) for the course. The first will be on The Book Thief, the second will be a critical analysis of your choice of a YA novel, the third will be on any 7-10 poems of your choice from This Same Sky. (50 pts. each for a total of 150 pts.)
- Students will individually analyze and present as a lesson plan to the class one young adult book not on the list, choice approved by instructor. Students must sign up for their book and a class meeting to present by mid-Feb. (100 pts.)
- Please keep all annotations, graded reflections and papers until the end of the semester.
- Class Participation (25 pts.) This is a subjective grade based on your participation and engagement with the class and your classmates throughout the semester. This course also includes a required component of Information Literacy in conjunction with the UTEP Library.

Attendance and Participation: Active participation is essential. Lack of participation in class discussion either in class or online or failure to read/analyze the assigned texts will result in a reduction of points from your assignments. Cell phones and computers will be turned off at the beginning of class. This includes no text messaging. If you must eat in class, please limit your food to a small, quietly consumed snack. Because learning rarely happens in isolation, but from a sharing of ideas and experiences, attendance at every class is mandatory. Since emergencies do arise, 2 absences will be allowed without penalty; after 2 absences or the equivalent tardies, you will lose 10 points for each class you miss, regardless of the reason. Students who miss a portion of the class will lose a commensurate number of points. These points will be deducted from the total accumulation of points you have earned by the end of the semester. If you miss a class, it is YOUR responsibility to contact a CLASSMATE, not the instructor, to get information on what was covered that day and copies of any papers that were passed out. It is assumed that since you signed up for this time slot, you are able to make the class in a timely manner. If you come to class late, points will be deducted from your assigned paper. Make-up papers will be allowed only with a
documented excuse (i.e. medical emergency or military duty). Attendance will be taken at the beginning of class; those students entering class after roll call are counted tardy; each tardy counts as half an absence. It is your responsibility to notify the instructor at the end of class if you are tardy. Do not assume that I have noted your appearance after roll call is taken. **Students missing more than 20% of classes (6 classes) will be dropped.** You do not need to contact me if you are going to be absent.

**Hybrid Course:** Please note this is a hybrid course so half of our course time and course work will be online. You are expected to participate fully in both assigned papers and online assignments and discussions. Please look over the separate **Blackboard Guidelines** to ensure that you understand the course expectations and requirements.

**Plagiarism and theft of intellectual property:** If you use work from someone else and submit it as your own; if you use work from another source in your assignments and do not give direct credit to your source; or if someone with whom you are working writes/creates any part of the work for you, you are plagiarizing. Acts of plagiarism are acts of theft, and will be dealt with swiftly according to UTEP’s established policy. **All assignments will be submitted through SafeAssign on Blackboard to help you with appropriate citation.**

**Assignments:** All out-of-class assignments **MUST be typed, double-spaced. 12 pt. font (10 pt. Arial), unless otherwise stated.** All assignments must include a bibliography at the end of the paper (separate page not necessary) with a word count on the front. I do not accept assignments emailed to me. In the event that I would require an emailed assignment it should be sent as a PDF attachment only. Save a copy of your assignments before you hand them in, as well as keep returned assignments until the end of the semester so you can keep abreast of your grade. Please ensure that you understand the requirements for the assignments before you begin, and give yourself ample time to complete them so that you can turn in your best work. **Assignments are due at the beginning of class:** those turned in to me after class will be counted as late. If you know you are going to be absent, give it to a classmate to turn in or turn it in early. **Please note:** Assignments that do not follow the given directions will not be given a passing grade. There are no “redo’s.” Late assignments lose 5 points per day.

**Liberal Arts Honors Program** - This class has been designated as a Liberal Arts Honors Program [LAHP] course. It has received this designation because it features at least five of the Honors course criteria, which include student leadership, advanced readings and/or reviews, opportunities for intensive writing, opportunities for intensive research, opportunities to utilize technology, opportunities to make extensive use of campus resources, community-based experiences, pre-professional opportunities, and development of critical thinking. In broader terms, this course is honors-designated because of its creativity and/or intellectual rigor, both of which are integral components of the Liberal Arts Honors Program. No additional coursework is necessary for this course to count towards the LAHP Honors minor. If you are not a member of the LAHP, and are interested in the program, please visit the LAHP website at [http://academics.utep.edu/lahp](http://academics.utep.edu/lahp).

**UTE Resources**

**CASS (Center for Accommodations and Support Services)** – If you have a disability and need classroom accommodations, please contact The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148, or by email to cass@utep.edu, or visit their office located in the UTEP Union East, Room 106. For additional information, please visit the CASS website at [www.sa.utep.edu/cass](http://www.sa.utep.edu/cass).

**Military Student Success Center** – If you are active military, a veteran, or a family member of military personnel, please visit the Military Student Success Center in the UTEP University Library Room 205 for help with benefits, registration, and tips for being successful at UTEP. You can also call them at 747-5342, or visit their website at [http://academics.utep.edu/Default.aspx?alias=academics.utep.edu/militaryservicesoffice](http://academics.utep.edu/Default.aspx?alias=academics.utep.edu/militaryservicesoffice)

**University Counseling Center** – If you are having a difficult time with personal relationships or with college life, please visit the University Counseling Center at the UTEP Union West, Room 202, or contact them at 747-5302, or visit their website [http://sa.utep.edu/counsel/](http://sa.utep.edu/counsel/). They provide one on one counseling as well as many helpful workshops

**PLEASE REALIZE AT ALL TIMES THAT YOU ARE PREPARING TO ENTER A PROFESSIONAL CAREER. IN THIS CLASS, YOU ARE EXPECTED TO LEARN, BEHAVE, AND DRESS IN THE COURTEOUS, CONSCIENTIOUS, AND GENERALLY BUSINESS-LIKE MANNER CALLED FOR IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION.**

This course is designated as Liberal Arts Honors Program LAHP course. Students accepted into LAHP should notify the instructor. If you are interested in learning more about LAHP, please contact me.

**Extra Help:** Students may see me by appointment. Help is also available at the UTEP Library Tutoring and Learning Center, Room 30, 747-5366.
ENGLISH 3306: Young Adult Literature SYLLABUS CALENDAR

This syllabus is subject to change at my discretion to meet instructional needs and/or to accommodate time constraints. Bring this syllabus and your assigned books to class daily. **Assignments:** The assignments are listed on their due date; the reflection paper for a book is due at the beginning of class on the day we discuss that book.

**Wk 1**  
Introduction to class and review of syllabus. Introduction of Elements of Fiction. Please understand and memorize the Elements of Fiction. They are important throughout the semester. Reflection assignment in class: What is young adult literature? **Read by next week: The Great Gilly Hopkins** (1)

**Assignment:** Select a young adult book for semester project. **Selection must be approved by the instructor. Sign up for a presentation date/time before the end of February.**

**Wk 2**  
Love That Dog (2) Make sure you review materials on discussing and analyzing poetry. As future teachers, I advise you to read the classic poems in the back of the book first and attempt to understand and appreciate them before reading the novel.

**Wk 3**  
Book Thief **Analytical paper #1** due

**Sept 7** Fall Census Day.

**Wk 4**  
Chains (3)

**Wk 5**  
Brown Girl Dreaming/All American Boys (4) Comparison of the 2 novels

**Wk 6**  
Breaking Through/Gabi Girl in Pieces. Comparison of the 2 novels. (5)

**Wk 7**  
American Born Chinese /Persepolis (6) Comparison of the 2 graphic novels

Analytical paper #2 (Novel of your choice) due

**Wk 8**  
A Step from Heaven (7)

**Wk 9**  
The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian (8)

**April 6**  
Course Drop Deadline

**Wk 10**  
Mockingbird (9)

**Wk 11**  
Presentations/ This Same Sky/Analytical paper #3 due

**Wk 12**  
Presentations. Environmentally sensitive novel. The Thing About Jellyfish or you may choose from Hoot, Ship Breaker, Firestorm, Breathe, or another novel approved by the instructor. (10)

**Wk 13**  
Presentations

**Wk 14**  
Presentations/Final Reflection Paper (11) due: What is young adult literature and how has your understanding of YA changed since the beginning of the semester? Use your reflection paper from the beginning of class to frame your thoughts.

**Wk 15**  
Presentations. Nov 28 will be our last class meeting.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Reading level</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Paperback</th>
<th>Publisher</th>
<th>ISBN-10</th>
<th>ISBN-13</th>
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<tr>
<td>The Great Gilly Hopkins</td>
<td>Ages 9-12</td>
<td>Katherine Paterson</td>
<td>160 pages</td>
<td>HarperCollins (June 17, 1987)</td>
<td>0064402010</td>
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<td>Love That Dog</td>
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<td>Sharon Creech</td>
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<td>Scholastic</td>
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<td>978-0316013086</td>
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<td>The Book Thief</td>
<td>Young Adult</td>
<td>Markus Zusak</td>
<td>576 pages</td>
<td>Knopf Books for Young Readers (September 11, 2007)</td>
<td>0439569866</td>
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<td>Breaking Through</td>
<td>Young Adult</td>
<td>Francisco Jimenez</td>
<td>208 pages</td>
<td>Sandpiper (October 1, 2002)</td>
<td>0618342486</td>
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<td>Gabi, Girl in Pieces</td>
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<td>Isabel Quintero</td>
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<td>Cinco Puntos</td>
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<td>Chains</td>
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<td>Laurie Halse Anderson</td>
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<td>Atheneum (January 5, 2010)</td>
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<td>Brown Girl Dreaming</td>
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<td>Jacqueline Woodson</td>
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<td>Nancy Paulson Books</td>
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<td>All American Boys</td>
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<td>Reynolds and Kiely</td>
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<td>Atheneum</td>
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<td>American Born Chinese</td>
<td>Young Adult</td>
<td>Gene Luen Yang</td>
<td>240 pages</td>
<td>First Second; Revised edition (September 5, 2006)</td>
<td>978-0375714573</td>
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<td>Persepolis</td>
<td>Young Adult</td>
<td>Marjane Satrapi</td>
<td></td>
<td>Pantheon</td>
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<tr>
<td>A Step From Heaven</td>
<td>high school and up</td>
<td>An Na</td>
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<td>Speak</td>
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<td>The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian</td>
<td>Young Adult</td>
<td>Sherman Alexie</td>
<td>288 pages</td>
<td>Little, Brown Young Readers; Reprint edition (April 1, 2009)</td>
<td>9780142417751</td>
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<td>Mockingbird</td>
<td>Young Adult</td>
<td>Katherine Erskine</td>
<td></td>
<td>Penguin</td>
<td>9780142417751</td>
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<td>This Same Sky: A Collection of Poems from Around the World</td>
<td>Young Adult</td>
<td>Selected by Naomi Shihab Nye</td>
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<td>Aladdin (May 1, 1996)</td>
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Choose one of the following novels for your last reflective paper or another environmentally sensitive novel approved by me.

- The Thing About Jellyfish
- Hoot
- Ship breaker
- Breathe
- Firestorm
- Hawk
- H is for Hawk
- Ali Benjamin
- Carl Hiaasen
- Paolo Bacigalupi
- Sarah Crossan
- David Klass
- Jennifer Dance
- Helen MacDonald