COMMON COURSE OUTLINE: Course discipline/number/title: ENGL 2298: Adolescent Literature

A. CATALOG DESCRIPTION
1. Credits: 3
2. Hours/Week: 3
3. Prerequisites (Course discipline/number): College Level reading
4. Co-requisites (Course discipline/number): None

This course is a study of literature written for and read by young adults, approximately between the ages of 12-18. In addition to studying specific works of literature, both classic and contemporary, the course also examines reading programs, the characteristics of specific literary genres, and approaches to those genres. Students will consider the developmental stage we call “adolescence”, whether this stage has changed significantly with recent societal changes, and how literature may reflect and/or support those changes.

B. DATE LAST REVISED (Month, year): September, 2011

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS:
1. Survey of literary works from different genres for young adults between the ages of 12-18.
2. In-depth study of selected works, both popular and classic, through reading, discussion, oral presentations, writing about and researching the literature.
3. Develop criteria for evaluating adolescent literature.
4. Learn the role of literature in stimulating an interest in language and reading and learn techniques to foster a lifelong love of reading.
5. Increase awareness of cultural diversity within the United States through reading and evaluating children’s literature from or about different cultural groups. Students will learn to evaluate the diversity or lack of diversity in adolescent literature.
6. Examine the connections between adolescent development, communication, and literature.

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (GENERAL): The student will be able to:
1. Identify and describe genres and trends, both historical and current, in Adolescent Literature.
2. Closely analyze texts, prose and poetry, for both literary style and artistic excellence.
3. Develop and participate in discussions or reader activities, possibly for classroom use.
4. Keep a reading journal of readings and assignments.
5. Write clear, concise, critical essays/reviews of young adult literature.
6. Select, analyze and interpret a variety of multicultural literature.

E. LEARNING OUTCOMES (MNTC):
Goal 2/Critical Thinking: The student will be able to:
  a. Gather factual information and apply it to a given problem in a manner that is relevant, clear, comprehensive, and conscious of possible bias in the information selected.
  b. Imagine and seek out a variety of possible goals, assumptions, interpretations, or perspectives which can give alternative meanings or solutions to given situations or problems.
  c. Analyze the logical connections among the facts, goals, and implicit assumptions relevant to a problem or claim and generate and evaluate implications that follow from them.
  d. Recognize and articulate the value assumptions that underlie and affect decisions, interpretations, analyses, and evaluations made by themselves and others.

Goal 6/The Humanities-the Arts, Literature, and Philosophy: The student will be able to:
1. Demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works of literature, philosophy, and the arts.
2. Understand those works as expressions of individual and human values within a historical and social context.
3. Respond critically to works of literature, philosophy, and the arts.
4. Engage in interpretation of works of literature, philosophy and the arts.
5. Articulate an informed response to works of literature, philosophy, and the arts.
E. LEARNING OUTCOMES (MNTC): Continued...

Goal 7/Human Diversity
1. Demonstrate an awareness of the individual and institutional dynamics of unequal power between groups in contemporary society.
2. Analyze their own attitudes, behaviors, concepts, and beliefs regarding diversity, racism, and bigotry.
3. Describe and discuss the experience and contributions (political, social, economic, etc.) of the many groups that shape American society and culture, in particular those groups that have suffered discrimination and exclusion.

F. METHODS FOR EVALUATION OF STUDENT LEARNING:
Students will be evaluated by some or all of the following:
1. Research paper
2. Essay exams
3. Book reports
4. Quizzes
5. Written homework
6. Small group projects
7. Group presentations
8. Journal-keeping
9. Or any other work judged appropriate by the instructor and indicated on the syllabus

G. RCTC CORE OUTCOME(S) ADDRESSED:

- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Global Awareness/Diversity

H. SPECIAL INFORMATION (if any): None