

# YOUNG ADULT LITERATURE

## Course Syllabus

### Communication

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*"It is the mark of an educated mind to be able to entertain a thought without accepting it." –Aristotle*

We are committed to providing your student with a well-rounded/diverse educational experience, involving a wide variety of topics and relevant social issues encountered in our pluralistic society. In our classrooms, all opinions are valued and critical thinking is expected. The focus of instruction is centered on both the Dubuque Community School District and Iowa State Standards. Parents and/or guardians are welcome/encouraged to read, view, and discuss material with their student.

### Course Description

This course emphasizes novels and short stories that focus on teens as the main characters. Drawn from today's headlines, the contemporary plots include such issues as peer pressure, abuse, drunk driving, gangs, health problems and violence.

### Standards

The following Iowa Common Core Standards will be met throughout this semester course:

**Reading Literature** (RL 11-12.1, RL 11-12.2, RL 11-12.3, IA.1, IA.2, RL 11-12.4, RL 11-12.5, RL 11-12.6, RL 11-12.7, RL 11-12.9, RL 11-12.10); **Reading Information Text** (RI 11-12.1, RI 11-12.2, RI 11-12.3, IA.1, IA.2, RI 11-12.4, RI 11-12.5, RI 11-12.6, RI 11-12.7, RI 11-12.10); **Writing** (W 11-12.9); **Speaking and Listening** (SL 11-12.1, SL 11-12.3, SL 11-12.4, SL 11-12.5); **Language** (L 11-12.4, L 11-12.5, L 11-12.6). *See the Iowa Common Core Handout for descriptions about each standard and which unit we are going to cover the standards in.*

### Course Materials

Pens/Pencils

Notebook/Paper

Student Agenda

Binder or Folder

### Course Content

Almost all of the reading will be done in class. However, if you are absent, you are expected to make up the reading on your own time. A tentative schedule is listed below. However, this is subject to change without further notice. The textbook **Snapshots Literature for Young Adults** will be used, along with novels chosen by the students. Additionally, some of the following novels could be taught: **I Know What You Did Last Summer** (Lois Duncan), **A Child Called It** (Dave Pelzer), **Silent to the Bone** (E.L. Konigsburg), **Cut** (Patricia McCormick), **Slam!** (Walter Dean Myers), **The Rag and Bone Shop** (Robert Cormier), **They Never Came Home** (Lois Duncan), **The First Part Last** (Angela Johnson), **Annie's Baby** (Anonymous), **It Happened to Nancy** (Anonymous).

### Assessments

Throughout the semester, we will have the following assessments: Summative (discussions, quick checks, completion points) and Formative (tests, quizzes, essays).

### Grading System

The standard grading system is in effect.

97-100 A+

87-89 B+

77-79 C+

67-69 D+

0-59 F

93-96 A

83-86 B

73-76 C

63-66 D

90-92 A-                      80-82 B-                      70-72 C-                      60-62 D-

## ***Homework Policy***

You are expected to turn in homework on the date it is due. Your grade may be reduced by up to 50% for late work. After the unit has ended, no more assignments will be accepted for that unit

## ***Cheating/Academic Dishonesty***

Cheating is forbidden. This includes copying another student's assignments. If you are caught cheating, you will be given no credit for that assignment and a parent conference will be held.

## ***Attendance Policy***

The Dubuque Community School District policy is in effect.

## ***Tardy Policy***

The Dubuque Senior High School policy is in effect.

## ***Passes***

You must use your passport/agenda if you would like to leave the classroom. If you do not have your agenda, you may not leave. **NO EXCEPTIONS! You may not use another student's agenda!** I will only sign your agenda during individual work time. You are allowed only one pass per day.

## ***Substitute Policy***

When a substitute teacher is needed, you are expected to be respectful, accommodating, and helpful at all times. Failure to do this will result in a parent-teacher conference with the AP present.

# ***Class Expectations***

- 1.) Be **RESPECTFUL** to yourself and others at all times!
- 2.) Be **PREPARED** for class each day!
- 3.) Stay on **TASK**.
- 4.) No **FOOD** or **DRINK** allowed in class!

# ***Consequences***

- 1.) Verbal warning
- 2.) Removal from situation
- 4.) AP Referral

*Immediate AP referral is implemented depending upon the severity of the situation.*

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Student Signature and date

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Parent/Guardian Signature and date

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Student PRINTED Name