ENGL 108M (01): Youth and Adolescence  
Spring 2000

Class Times: Wednesdays, 7-10 pm  
Place: HH 139  
Instructor: Julie Stewart  
Office Hours: PAS 2222, Wednesdays 4:30-6:30 pm  
Mailbox: HH 229  
Email: jastewart17@hotmail.com

Course Objectives: ENGL 108M is a theme course which focuses on the portrayal of youth and adolescence in literature. We will consider how the texts characterize or construct young/adolescent protagonists, how the characters react to and interact with adult society, how their physical and emotional development is explored, and how their expectations and constraints are depicted. The course will focus on close readings of the assigned texts and since much of the class will depend on discussion, you will be expected to have read the designated texts before you come to each class. Elements of contemporary, popular youth culture will also be explored through presentations.

Required Texts:


Recommended Texts:


**Please Note:** All royalties from the sale of this text will be donated to the Dept of English scholarship fund.
Assignments

1. **Summary Sheets: 20%**
   **You will hand in on the assigned days: (a) a plot summary of the text at hand (no more than 2 pages, double spaced) and, more importantly,**
   (b) a thoughtful, well-considered question (or questions, if you like) about the text which goes beyond plot to consider form, important issues or themes, etc. The question should be designed to provoke discussion in class, and both the question and the summary should be your own.
   **You will hand in a summary sheet for FIVE of the seven texts, and they will each be marked out of ten. If you wish, you may do six or seven summary sheets and take the best five marks.**
   **Please note that these summary sheets will form a considerable percentage of your grade and that I will not accept late summary sheets. It is your responsibility to ensure that your summaries arrive on time to the correct mailbox. They will be due by 4 pm in my mailbox in HH 229 on designated Wednesdays.**

2. **In Class Presentation: 20%** More details to follow.

3. **Essay (6-7 typed pages): 30%** Due: July 26, 2000 More details to follow.

4. **Final Exam: 30%** TBA by the University

**Essay Policies:** Essays will be handed in to me at the beginning of the class on the day they are due. Essays which are not handed to me directly must be signed and dated by a department secretary or instructor and placed in my mailbox in HH 229.

Late essays will be docked 2% a day starting the day the assignment is due, including weekends. Extensions at my discretion for serious medical and/or family emergencies only. Budget your time and plan on handing your assignments in on time.

**Please Note:** **Plagiarism** is a serious academic offense and will be dealt with according to the University of Waterloo Disciplinary Code (see Policy 71 in Undergraduate Calendar, 1:10). All quotations, paraphrased material and ideas which are not your own MUST be properly cited and referenced. We will discuss this in class, but if you have any questions, please come and see me.

**Tentative Class Schedule**

May 3: Intro to ENGL 108M
May 10: The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn
*Choice of handing in summary sheet for Huck Finn, up to end of Chapter XXI. You may only hand in one summary sheet for Huck Finn.

May 17: The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn (cont’d)
*Choice of handing in summary sheet for Huck Finn, Chapters XXII-end of novel. You may only hand in one summary sheet for Huck Finn.

May 24: The Catcher in the Rye
*Hand in summary sheet for Catcher
*Presentations

May 31: Foxfire
*Hand in summary sheet for Foxfire
*Presentations

June 7: Foxfire (cont’d)
*Presentations

June 14: The Bluest Eye
*Hand in summary sheet for The Bluest Eye
*Presentations

June 21: The Bluest Eye (cont’d)
*Presentations

June 28: The Lives of Girls and Women
*Hand in summary sheet for Lives
*Presentations

July 5: Wildlife
*Hand in summary sheet for Wildlife
*Presentations

July 12: Wildlife (cont’d)
*Presentations

July 19: Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit
*Hand in summary sheet for Oranges
*Presentations

July 26: Essay Due
Exam Preparation, Tying up loose ends, etc