ENGL 108M Youth and Adolescence, Fall 2012

Mondays & Wednesdays 4:30-5:50 p.m., HH 2107
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Office Hours: Mondays 3:00 – 4:30 p.m., in PAS 2218

**Infancy, n.** The period of our lives when, according to Wordsworth, “Heaven lies about us.” The world begins lying about us pretty soon afterward.

**Childhood, n.** The period of human life intermediate between the idiocy of infancy and the folly of youth – two removes from the sin of manhood and three from the remorse of age.

- Ambrose Bierce, *The Unabridged Devil’s Dictionary*

**Infant.** [late Middle English] *Infant* is from Old French *enfant*, from Latin *infant* - ‘unable to speak’, from *in-‘not’ and *fant-* from the verb *fari* ‘to speak.’

- *Oxford Dictionary of Word Histories*

In this course we’ll be engaging with some of the ways in which different genres of literature (the lyric poem, the short story, the novel, etc.), from different periods and movements (early nineteenth-century Romanticism, Postmodernism, etc.) have portrayed youth and adolescence. We will look at the importance of speech, language and knowledge as a source of agency and power, and as a source of inhibition, constraint and ideology. The course is meant to serve as an introduction to literary analysis, so it will have a focus on student writing, as well as basic terms and definitions.

**Required Texts**

- *The Catcher in the Rye* and *Nine Stories* by J.D. Salinger
- *The Golden Compass* by Philip Pullman
- *Great Expectations* by Charles Dickens
- ENGL108M Courseware (short story by Le Guin)
- Links for poems may be found on the schedule of readings below.

**Grade Breakdown:**

- Close Analysis (Oct 15) 15%
- Midterm (Oct 29) 25%
- Final Essay (Dec 3) 30%
- Final exam (TBD) 30%
- Extra credit 5%

**Schedule of Readings**

*Week 1.*
Monday, September 10
Course introduction

Wednesday, September 12

**Week 2.**
Monday, September 17

Wednesday, September 19
Felicia Hemans, "Casabianca," "Evening Prayer at a Girl’s School"
Elizabeth Bishop, "Casabianca," "In the Waiting Room"

**Week 3.**
Monday, September 24
Charles Perrault, "Little Red Riding Hood"
Carol Ann Duffy, "Little Red-Cap"

Wednesday, September 26
Ursula K. Le Guin, "The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas" (courseware)

**Week 4**
Monday, October 1
J.D. Salinger, "The Laughing Man" in Nine Stories

Wednesday, October 3
J.D. Salinger, "Uncle Wiggily in Connecticut" in Nine Stories

**Week 5**
Monday, October 8
No class! (Happy Thanksgiving)

Wednesday, October 10
J.D. Salinger, "Teddy" in Nine Stories

**Week 6**
Monday, October 15
J.D. Salinger, "Teddy" in Nine Stories

Wednesday, October 17
J.D. Salinger, The Catcher in the Rye (chapters 1-10)

**Close Analysis Due: Oct 15**

**Week 7**
Monday, October 22
J.D. Salinger, The Catcher in the Rye (chapters 11-18)
Wednesday, October 24
J.D. Salinger, *The Catcher in the Rye* (finish)

**Week 8**
Monday, October 29
Midterm (No readings)

Wednesday, October 31
Philip Pullman, *The Golden Compass* (chapters 1-5)

**Week 9**
Monday, November 5
Philip Pullman, *The Golden Compass* (chapters 6-13)

Wednesday, November 7
Philip Pullman, *The Golden Compass* (chapters 14-19)

**Week 10**
Monday, November 12
Philip Pullman, *The Golden Compass* (finish)

Wednesday, November 14
Charles Dickens, *Great Expectations* (chapters 1-10)

**Week 11**
Monday, November 19
Charles Dickens, *Great Expectations* (chapters 11-19)

Wednesday, November 21
Charles Dickens, *Great Expectations* (chapters 20-29)

**Week 12**
Monday, November 26
Charles Dickens, *Great Expectations* (chapters 30-39)

Wednesday, November 28
Charles Dickens, *Great Expectations* (chapters 40-49)

**Week 13**
Monday, December 3
Charles Dickens, *Great Expectations* (finish)
Review class

**Final Essay Due: Dec 3**

**Assignments and Tests:**

We will discuss expectations and guidelines in greater detail during class, but, briefly:
The Close Analysis assignment (500-750 words, MLA-style, typed, double-spaced, 12pt font) will be an analysis of one poem, or one section of one of the short stories or novels. Unlike your final essay, in the short Close Analysis you do not need a thesis statement. However, you Close Analysis does need to be in full sentences, grammatically correct, and in proper MLA format. Due: October 15th, handed in at the beginning of class, emailed to me or submitted to the Dropbox, no later than 11:59 p.m. that evening. Please use OWL for MLA guidelines.

The Argumentative Essay assignment (1,500 words, MLA-style, typed, double-spaced, 12pt font) should have a clear thesis statement, and a supporting argument about the meaning or structure of your chosen work. You are allowed to use the same text you used for the close analysis. Due: December 3rd, handed in at the beginning of class, or emailed to me, or submitted to the Dropbox, no later than 11:59 p.m. that evening. Please use OWL for MLA guidelines.

The Midterm and the Final Exam will both be some combination of short answer questions about the primary texts, terms and definitions, passage identifications, and fill-in-the-blank sentences. I will not be expecting beautifully constructed arguments or flashes of rhetorical brilliance—you can do that in your essays. The tests are meant to make sure you’ve done the readings, test your knowledge, and force you to review your notes a few times during the semester. All material will be taken from the lectures.

Policies:

Extra Credit:
- Up to 5% extra credit may be earned by electronically submitting an answer for up to five of the homework questions that I will soon be posting on LEARN. You may only submit one answer at a time. Each answer, provided it makes a decent amount of sense and shows to me you’ve done the reading, will earn you an extra point on your final grade. Answers must be sent or submitted before the relevant class (on the question sheet I will make it clear which questions correspond to which dates). Answers should be about 200-300 words.

Late Policy:
- Submitting an assignment any time after a given assignment deadline is 5% automatically off that assignment’s grade for the first 24 hours, and an additional 2% off that assignment’s grade for each additional day late. (So, for example, a paper that was three days late would receive a late penalty of 9%.) Weekends count as regular days.

Email and Dropbox:
- Assignments may be submitted electronically via the course Dropbox on LEARN, or by emailing me. If you want to submit a late assignment, you must use email. If you do email an assignment, I will respond with a quick “Got it!” within 24 hours or so – usually within a few hours if not a few minutes. If I haven’t done this, assume that I don’t have the assignment and send it again, before the late penalty adds up. If you submit an assignment electronically, please .doc, .docx or .rtf format.

Rough Drafts:
- Before a given deadline, you may email me a rough draft of a paper, and I will comment on it and send it back. But the catch is you can only do this once per assignment. (You
could also send me snippets, paragraphs, outlines, or diagrams you drew on napkins – but again, only once. Beyond that, you should come in to office hours so we can talk about the assignment.)

**Attendance:**

- Students are expected to attend all lectures, and to arrive on time. If you miss a lecture, you will be responsible to find out what you missed from one of your colleagues. I will not provide lecture notes.

**Academic Integrity**

- **Academic Integrity:** In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility.

- **Discipline:** A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about “rules” for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or the Undergraduate Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under Policy 71 – Student Discipline. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy 71 - Student Discipline, [http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm](http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm).

- **Grievance:** A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances, Section 4, [http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.htm](http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.htm).

- **Appeals:** A student may appeal the finding and/or penalty in a decision made under Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances (other than regarding a petition) or Policy 71 - Student Discipline if a ground for an appeal can be established. Read Policy 72 - Student Appeals, [http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy72.htm](http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy72.htm).

- **Academic Integrity website** (Arts): [http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic_responsibility.html](http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic_responsibility.html)

- **Academic Integrity Office (uWaterloo):** [http://uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/](http://uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/)

**Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:**

- Note for students with disabilities: The Office for Persons with Disabilities (OPD), located in Needles Hall, Room 1132, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the OPD at the beginning of each academic term.