STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY
CANTON, NEW YORK

MASTER SYLLABUS

ENGLISH 325 – CONTEMPORARY YOUNG ADULT LITERATURE

CIP Code: 230101

Created by: Cindy Lou Daniels
Updated by: Linda Bertrand, April 2012
   Emily Hamilton-Honey, Sept. 2016
   Emily Hamilton-Honey, June 2019

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND LIBERAL ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH AND HUMANITIES
FALL 2019
A. **TITLE:** Contemporary Young Adult Literature

B. **COURSE NUMBER:** ENGL 325

C. **CREDIT HOURS:**
3 Credit Hours
3 Lecture Hours: 3 per week

Course Length: 15 Weeks

D. **WRITING INTENSIVE COURSE:** No

E. **GER CATEGORY:** None

F. **SEMESTER(S) OFFERED:** Spring

G. **COURSE DESCRIPTION:** In this course students explore contemporary young adult novels as a genre of literature, including the historical development, current trends, and enduring characteristics of young adult literature and its influence on readers. Various works are analyzed according to critical perspectives. Readings include a number of subgenres, i.e. adventures, mysteries, humor, fantasy, science fiction, the people and places of history, and modern social issues.

H. **PRE-REQUISITES/CO-REQUISITES:**
a. Pre-requisite(s): Expository Writing OR Oral and Written Expression AND one literature course AND 30 credit hours earned with a cumulative GPA of 2.0, OR permission of the instructor.

I. **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

By the end of this course, the student will be able to:

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<tr>
<th>Course Student Learning Outcome [SLO]</th>
<th>PSLO</th>
<th>GER</th>
<th>ISLO</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Describe the historical development, current trends, and enduring characteristics of young adult literature.</td>
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<td>1. Communication Skills (W)</td>
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<td>b. Identify literary elements in young adult novels and write critical responses to selected works using terms common to the humanities.</td>
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<td>2. Critical Thinking (CA)</td>
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<td>c. Argue for specific interpretations of course materials, including current research and/or social issues explored (i.e. racism,</td>
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child abuse, life-choices, societal/world issues, humor in literature).

<table>
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<tr>
<th>KEY</th>
<th>Institutional Student Learning Outcomes [ISLO]</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ISLO #</td>
<td>ISLO &amp; Subsets</td>
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</table>
| 1 | Communication Skills  
Oral [O], Written [W] |
| 2 | Critical Thinking  
Critical Analysis [CA], Inquiry & Analysis [IA], Problem Solving [PS] |
| 3 | Foundational Skills  
Information Management [IM], Quantitative Lit./Reasoning [QTR] |
| 4 | Social Responsibility  
Ethical Reasoning [ER], Global Learning [GL], Intercultural Knowledge [IK], Teamwork [T] |
| 5 | Industry, Professional, Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills |

J. **APPLIED LEARNING COMPONENT:** Yes______ No____X____

K. **TEXTS:**
(Representative texts; texts chosen by instructor)

L. REFERENCES:
(Representative references; references chosen by instructor.)

M. EQUIPMENT: Technology enhanced classroom

N. GRADING METHOD: A-F

O. SUGGESTED MEASUREMENT CRITERIA/METHODS:
• Exams
• Quizzes
• Papers
• Participation

P. DETAILED COURSE OUTLINE: (must use the outline format listed below)

I. Introduction
   A. Defining Contemporary Young Adult Literature
   B. Literary Elements
      1. Character
      2. Plot
3. Themes
4. Setting
5. Point of View
6. Tone
7. Style

**II. Different Genres of Young Adult Literature** (not all need be covered in one semester)

A. The “New Realism” of Life and Problems
   1. E.g., Whirligig, The Facts Speak for Themselves, The Miseducation of Cameron Post

B. The “Old Romanticism” of Wishing and Winning
   1. E.g., Armageddon Summer, Walk Two Moons, Speak

C. Adventures, Mysteries, The Supernatural, and Humor
   1. E.g., The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian, Holes

D. Fantasy, Science Fiction, Utopias, and Dystopias
   1. E.g., Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban, The Hunger Games, Feed, Boy Meets Boy, The Messenger, Sang Spell

E. History and History Makers
   1. E.g., Burning Up, The Midwife’s Apprentice, I Have Lived A Thousand Years, Fallen Angels, Eleanor Roosevelt: A Life of Discovery

**III. Social Aspects of Young Adult Literature**

A. Current Trends
   1. Pop Culture and Mass Media
   2. Literary Canon vs. Contemporary Young Adult Literature

B. Enduring Characteristics
   1. Viewpoint
   2. Realism vs. Formula Fiction
   3. Pacing
   4. Subject Matters
   5. Inclusion of Ethnic/Cultural Differences

C. Censorship and the Young Adult Novel
   1. Assumptions about Censorship and Censors
   2. Who/What/Why?

**IV. Conclusion**

A. Defining Contemporary Young Adult Literature

**Q. LABORATORY OUTLINE:** None