Spring 2018 Course Descriptions

Instructor: Kalani Pattison
Course: ENGL 361.501
Title: Adolescent Literature

Description: In this course, we will survey adolescent and young adult literature (YA lit) from the twenty-first and latter half of the twentieth century. We will explore:

- A variety of forms (novels, short stories, and poems) in the various genres of historical fiction, realistic fiction, fantasy, and science-fiction.
- Works by authors from a variety of continents and ethnicities.
- How these works both express notions of the nature of adolescence and shape those notions within a culture, paying particular attention to characters’ growth into virtuous, compassionate, wise(r) adults
- Conceptions of justice, power, gender, language, and communication.

In our explorations, we will apply principles of literary analysis to the texts that we read, but we will not discuss teaching practices. Students will read assigned texts, write shorter weekly assignments and longer argument papers, and complete a creative argument project.

Proposed Readings: Readings will include works such as Robin McKinley's /Dragonhaven/, Guadalupe Garcia McCall's /Under the Mesquite/, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's /Purple Hibiscus/, and Cynthia Voigt's /Elske/.