Spring 2020 Course Description

Instructor: Elizabeth Robinson  
Course: ENGL 361  
Title: Young Adult Literature

Description: In this course, we will survey young adult literature (YA lit) from early fairy tale texts through very recently published texts. In our reading of these YA texts, we will explore

• a variety of genres: novels, encompassing realism, science fiction and fantasy; poetry, and fairy tales;
• the nature, characteristics, and purposes of YA literature, and
• how the works we read are connected to the cultures and time periods in which they were produced and consider how these works both express notions of the nature of adolescence and shape those notions within a culture. In our explorations, we will apply principles of literary analysis to the texts that we read, but we will not discuss teaching practices or criteria for book selection.

Proposed Readings: • Hallett and Karasek, Folk and Fairy Tales  
• Ransom Riggs, Miss Peregrine’s Home for Peculiar Children  
• Diana Wynne Jones, Howl’s Moving Castle  
• Scott Westerfeld, Leviathan  
• L. M. Montgomery, Anne of Green Gables  
• S. E. Hinton, The Outsiders  
• Guadalupe Garcia McCall, Under the Mesquite  
• Kwame Alexander, The Crossover