**Teaching Literature and Culture**

**Course topics (tentative)**

The importance of reading literacy.

Ways of reading in and outside the classroom.

Using the canonical literature (the classics) in the classroom.

Authentic vs. graded reading.

Challenging stereotypes in narratives.

DEAR time and reading autonomy. Lapbooks and reading scrapbooks.

The flipped classroom.

Reading and the integrated curriculum.

**Course requirements**

Continuous assessment:

1. Attendance in all 3 Saturday blocks.
2. Home preparation and active participation in the course.

Summative assessment:

1. Read one YA novel, see below for more.
2. Create a lapbook as both a reading journal and teaching resource bank, see below for more.

A recommended reading list (feel free to consult alternatives):

Sherman Alexie: *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*. 2007.

Laurie Halse Anderson: *Speak*, 1999, *Speak*. The graphic novel, 2018.

Jay Asher: *13 Reason’s Why*, 2011.

Leigh Bardugo: any title.

Malorie Blackman. *Noughts and Crosses*. 2001.

Alexandra Bracken: *The Darkest Minds*, 2012.

Martha Brooks: *True Confessions of a Heartless Girl,* 2002.

Robert Cormier: *The Chocolate War,* 1974, *I am the Cheese*, 1977.

Sharon Creech: any title.

Sarah Crossan: any title.

Tracy Deonn: *Legendborn*, 2020.

Roddy Doyle. *Paddy Clark Ha Ha Ha*. 1995.

Pintip Dunn: *Malice*, 2020.

Debby Dahl Edwardson: *My Name Is Not Easy*, 2013.

Gavin Extence: *The Universe versus Alex Woods*. 2013.

Gayle Forman: *If I Stay*, 2009.

Mark Haddon. *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time*. 2003.

Diana Wynne Jones: *Howl’s Moving Castle*, series. 2012-.

Neil Gaiman: any title for YA.

Gish Jen. *Mona in the Promised Land*. 1997.

T.J. Klune: *The House in the Cerulean Sea*, 2020.

Stephenie Meyer. *Twilight*. 2006.

Madeline Miller: *The Song of Achilles*, 2011.

Jandy Nelson: *I'll Give You the Sun*, 2014.

Patrick Ness:*A Monster Calls.* 2011.

Garth Nix: *Sabriel*. 1995.

Katherine Paterson: any title.

Michael Paver. *Chronicles of Ancient Darkness,* 2004-22, any of the novel series, or*Gods and Warriors*, 2012-16 (any of the novel series).

Jodi Picault. *My Sister’s Keeper*. 2004.

Connie Rose Potter. *Imani All Mine*. 1999.

Wendy Phillips: *Fishtailing*, 201.0

Terry Pratchett: any title.

Phillip Pullman: *His Dark Materials*, 1995-2000.

Raziel Reid: *When Everything Feels Like Movies,* 2014.

Benjamin Alire Saenz: *Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe*, 2013.

Brie Spangler: *Beast*, 2016.

Jacqueline Woodson: *Brown Girl Dreaming*, 2014.

Benjamin Zephaniah: *Refugee Boy*. 2001, *Teacher’ Dead,*2007.

**Lapbook ideas:**

Based on your reading, see above, create a lapbook. Lapbooks should not be uniform – actually, diversity is their very idea. There is a ton of inspiration on the internet. Here are some tips:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y0heSPlDnF0&t=3>s

<https://www.youtube.com/@ellemadison9569>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BH0Scq89lM4>

<https://www.pancelcino.cz/lapbook/>

Here is what your lapbook should or could contain:

* Title, author, year of publication
* Context: setting, characters, turning points – if you take information from a source, you must acknowledge it properly
* Analysis: language (language level, key language, teachable language or language items you learnt, revised, found interesting), an extract (that you think might be good for the classroom use or other purposes), the visual aspect of the book …
* Teaching aspect: a bank of activities you could do with the book (feel free to use ideas from the class), scaffolded discussion questions, other learning potential (CLIL, integrated curriculum, project …)
* Reflection: the best part of the story, the least interesting part of the story if any, a memorable quote, the reading time, readability, the book’s score (e.g. 0-10) …

NOTE: In our case, the lapbook is a means to an end so the content is more important than the form. Its main goal is to present your reading and thinking rather than your artistic skills. If you wish, the lapbook can be an art project but absolutely doesn’t have to be. On the contrary, if your lapbook is pretty but doesn’t contain relevant and interesting information, it is a problem. The only requirement for the form is that the lapbook is organized and logically structured and therefore easy to navigate.