Instructor: Deborah Brown, Ph.D.; Professor of English  
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Office Hours: Monday, 12:30 - 2:00 p.m.  
Tuesday and Thursday: 11:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. and 2:00 - 2:30 p.m.

Course Prerequisites: English 1113 and 1213

Course Description from the UCO Catalog: This course "examines literature written before 1980 specifically for or taught to an adolescent audience."

Transformative Learning:  
"University of Central Oklahoma is a learning-centered organization committed to transformative education through active engagement in the teaching-learning interchange, scholarly and creative pursuits, leadership, global competence, healthy lifestyles, and service to others." This course addresses the following transformative learning goals:  
- Discipline Knowledge  
- Research, Scholarly, and Creative Activities

Course Objectives: Students will:
1) Develop an understanding of selected young adult literary texts by critically reading, analyzing, and writing about selected texts; (NCTE 3.2.2, 3.2.3, 3.3; OK 1: UCO IB, II C, D; IIIA)
2) Become acquainted with various genres of young adult literature appropriate for study in middle and secondary schools; (NCTE 2.6: 3.1.3, 3.1.4; OK 1: UCO IB, IIIA)
3) Develop an understanding of criteria for selecting and evaluating young adult literature; (NCTE 3.5.1, 4.0; OK 1: UCO IB, IIIA)
4) Develop an understanding of selected methods and strategies for promoting and sharing literature with adolescents; (NCTE 4.1, 4.7, 4.9, 4.10; OK 6; UCO IB IIIA)
5) Be aware of the complexity of the world of the young adult and the place of literature in it (NCTE 1.1, 2.1, 2.2; OK 2; UCO IB, IIIA).

Course Texts and Materials:
Frank, Anne. The Diary of a Young Girl (The Definitive Edition). Eds. Otto H. Frank and Mirjam Pressler
One additional novel you will choose from a reading list for your Literature Circle and literary analysis paper.

Green Scantrons (Form 882-E) and blue books for your exams

Course Requirements: (see details below)
In-class quizzes, written responses, and activities - 100 points
Prepare Questions/Lead a class discussion - 25 points (depending upon the number of students in our class, this may be done collaboratively with a peer)
Midterm Exam - Johnny Tremain, Little Women, The Diary of a Young Girl (The Definitive Edition), To Kill a Mockingbird, - 150 point test x 2 = 300 points
Literature Circle Project (includes responses, a group presentation and individual literary analysis paper) - 175 points
Final Exam - The Outsiders, The Pigman, A Day No Pigs Would Die, Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry - 150 point text x 2 = 300 points

Grading:
900 - 810 points = A (90 - 100%)
709 - 720 points = B (80 - 89%)
619 - 630 points = C (70 - 79%)
629 - 360 points = D (60 - 69%)
Under 360 = F Below 60%

Important Course Policies:
Attendance Policy:
Per UCO English Department policies, a student must attend at least 70% of the class sessions in order to receive a passing grade. Thus, for this course, anyone who misses 4 or more classes will fail the course. These four absences include both "un-excused" and "excused" absences. Also, please make every effort to be on time for class. Three late arrivals equals one absence. Also, because our class meets only once a week, if you arrive later than 3:00 or leave before 4:00, your attendance will be for just ½ of a class. (Should late arrivals become a recurring problem, this policy will change, and students who arrive after the door is closed will not be allowed into class that day. I know other professors used this policy, and I will implement it if necessary.)

Late and Make-Up Work Policy:
You may make up a weekly reading response, quiz or in-class activity for two absences if I hear from you the day you are absent. In other words, do not tell me during the last week of class that you were ill on October 3 and need to make up a quiz we had that day. A quiz or class activity that you miss on the third absence may not be made up. Also, if you are late to class and you miss a quiz, it may not be made up. If you are going to miss class because of university sanctioned event in which you are participating or for a religious holiday, you must let me know ahead of time so we can make arrangements for the work to be taken care of ahead of time.

The Midterm Exam may not be made up unless there is an emergency and arrangements are
made 24 hours before the exam. The final exam may not be taken early or late.

Participation:
If your final grade for the semester is a border-line grade (709 or 619 points for example), you may receive a higher grade if you have regularly participated in class discussions and been ready to start class on time. This class will be the most meaningful for you if you come to class prepared and if you engage in class discussions.

Cell phones and pagers:
All cell phones and pagers are to be turned off in the classroom. Failure to comply will result in immediate dismal for the remainder of the class period, and you will be considered absent for that day. The use of or the positioning of a cell phone so that it is seen during an exam will result in a zero on the exam.

Regents' statement on Course Workload and Homework -OSRHE II-2-34: It is expected that a full-time college student will spend a minimum amount of time each week in class attendance and study out of class approaching a 40-hour work week. A person employed on a full time basis should not expect to maintain simultaneously a full-time academic schedule. At the undergraduate level, this means that for each hour in class, a student is expected to spend at least three hours doing homework. For example, for a three credit class, a student should spend nine hours a week doing homework.

For the University’s Academic Integrity Statement and other important policies:
Please read the attached Student Information Sheet for Fall 2011.
Important Details about Course Requirements:

1. **Out-of and In-class weekly responses, quizzes, and activities - 100 points**
   
   Each week that you have a reading assignment, you will complete a reading response outside of class (See the Literature Circle Handout) and/or we will have a quiz, a written response, or some kind of activity in class that will be worth a total of 10 points each week. The out-of-class reading responses are 5 points each and graded primarily on completion though they must show some meaningful and original thought to earn all five points. Practicing them will assure that you know what to do for your Literature Circle Project.

2. **Midterm Exam - 300 points**
   
   This exam will include objective questions, short answer questions, and essay questions. You will need a green scantron sheet (Form # 882-E), a pencil, a blue book, and a blue or black ball point pen for each exam.

3. **Prepare Questions for/Lead a Class Discussion - 25 points**
   
   Prepare questions about a week's reading assignment to lead class discussion. In addition to the questions you prepare, you will want to give some information about the history of the book, the grade-level in which it is usually taught and/or for which it is appropriate. The questions should not be all low-level type questions: use Bloom’s Taxonomy as a strategy for preparing questions: Knowledge, Comprehension, Application, Analysis, Synthesis, and Evaluation. If you are not familiar with Bloom’s Taxonomy, sample questions for each level are easy to find; one example is [http://tep.uoregon.edu/resources/assessment](http://tep.uoregon.edu/resources/assessment). For our class, you should prepare more higher-level questions than lower ones. I have learned to prepare more questions than I might actually need because I never know how well a class will participate on a given day. It is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. The partners - or group depending upon how many students enroll in the class - should make a written list of questions to hand in to me.

4. **Literature Circle Project and Literary Analysis Paper (175 points)**
   
   You will read one book independently outside of class and then discuss the book in a Literature Circle with two or three others in the class. Your group must have a total of four meetings, three of which will be during the last part of our regular class sessions. Your group will give a collaborative group presentation about your book, and individually, each of you will write a literary analysis paper about the book your group reads. Detailed instructions and rubrics for this project will be on a separate handout.

5. **Final Exam - 300 points**
   
   This exam will include objective questions, short answer questions, and essay questions. You will need a green scantron sheet (Form # 882-E), a pencil, a blue book, and a blue or black ball point pen for each exam.
Tentative Weekly Schedule
English 4643, Fall 2011

Important Reminder: It is essential that reading assignments and reading responses be completed before you come to class each week. You must be in class in order to receive credit for the reading responses. When you are asked to complete a Role Response, consult your Literature Circle handout and follow the directions.

Week One, August 22: Introductions - a brief history of young adult literature, complete a short survey, sign up for a "Researcher Role" for next week, etc.

Week Two, August 29: Johnny Tremain, (1943) - Esther Forbes
Researcher Role assignment is due today

Week Three, Sept. 5: No class for Labor Day

Week Four, Sept. 12: Little Women, Part I (1868) - Louisa May Alcott
Complete the Connector Role (#2) for today. You should have at least three connections, one related to your own experiences, the wider world and another text and/or author. Be sure to include the passage (Chapter, page #’s if that specific) you make a connection with and then write a brief paragraph about each one. Your personal experience connection might be something like "such and such a character reminds me of......" someone you have known or know.

Week Five, September 19: Diary of Anne Frank

Week Six, September 26: Diary of Anne Frank
Complete the Word Wizard Role (#3) for today’s reading.

Week Seven, October 3: To Kill a Mockingbird, Part I (1960) Harper Lee

Week Eight, October 10: To Kill a Mockingbird Part II
Complete the Literary Luminary Role (#4) for today. Find five items to include on your list. Along with words you find and record, you might find some idioms to include in your list. Your list should include at least five items.

Week Nine, October 17: Midterm Exam

Week Ten, October 24: The Outsiders (1968) S.E. Hinton
Role Response (#5) for Scene Setter. You are going to read the entire book, of course, so what you need to list are the "key events" along with your descriptions.

**Week Eleven, October 31: The Pigman (1968) Paul Zindel**

Complete the Role Response (#6) for Questioner for today. Include five questions. Make sure that they are not all simple fact questions.

Make sure that you bring your book for your Literature Circle Project to class with you today.

**Week Twelve, Nov. 7: A Day No Pigs Would Die (1972) Robert Newton Peck**

Your Literature Circle will meet for the last 30 - 45 minutes of class today; bring the role you agreed to do for today for your group discussion (and bring your Lit. Circle book of course).

**Week Thirteen, Nov. 14: Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry (1976) Mildred Taylor**

Your Literature Circle will meet for the last 30 - 45 minutes of class today; bring the role(s) you agreed to complete for today for your group discussion along with your book.

**Week Fourteen, Nov. 21:** No formal class meeting today, but you must meet with your Literature Circle to finish your discussion of the book and/or to prepare for your presentation next week. You must meet before Wednesday, Nov. 23th when Thanksgiving break begins.

**Week Fifteen, Nov. 28:** Literature Circle Presentations and individual papers are due today.

**Week Sixteen, Dec. 5:** Graduate Presentations and papers are due today.

Final Exam: Monday, December 12 at 1:00 p.m.