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Fall 2020

# ENGL 405

## Young Adult Literature

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### Course Description

The undergraduate catalog describes ENGL 405 as “a survey of young-adult literature with special attention to literary theories and methodologies that assist its interpretation,” which broadly describes what we will be covering in this course. We’ll also discuss the history of young-adult (YA) literature, and examine the ways in which authors, teachers, and critics imagine such literature functions.

As a writing intensive (“W”) course, this class requires a significant amount of written work: 20 pages of polished writing, total, by the end of the semester, in addition to drafts and informal writing assignments. We will do peer review with these drafts, and you are always welcome to bring drafts to me to discuss as you revise them. Since this is a 400-level class, I will expect you to demonstrate your understanding of course content by incorporating research beyond the required course readings into the long paper. We’ll talk about all of this more as the course gets underway.

### Contact Information

Prof. Rosemary V. Hathaway

E-mail: [rvhathaway@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:rvhathaway@mail.wvu.edu)

Office Hours this semester will be by Zoom only, since we’re not allowed to hold face-to-face office hours. I’ll be holding office hours for the half hour before our class starts on Mondays and Wednesdays, so from 10:00-10:30 am, and then from noon until 1pm on Mondays and Wednesdays. The link for my office hours is XXXXXXXXXX, and the passcode is XXXXXXXXXX.

You’re also welcome to make an appointment to talk (via Zoom or phone) anytime. Just send me an email and we’ll set something up.

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## Texts

Anderson, Laurie Halse. *Speak* (ISBN 9780312674397)

Yang, Gene Luen. *American Born Chinese* (ISBN 9780312384487)

Four additional books to be chosen from the list of options for literature circles (see last page of syllabus)

## Attendance and participation policies

This online course is scheduled as a “synchronous” course, meaning that we will be meeting in real time. As you look through the week-to-week schedule, however, you’ll notice that we will not be meeting every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. We’ll meet online as a full group for the first couple weeks of the semester, and then less often (but still regularly) as the semester continues.

Once we start the literature-circle work, I’ll expect you to be available to meet online with your small group during our regular class meeting time, since that may be the only time when everyone in the group is available.

Otherwise, much of the work of the course will be asynchronous, meaning you’ll need to manage your own time and keep up with the work as scheduled in our Google Classroom.

## Course Requirements

Detailed information about the following assignments will be provided separately in Google Classroom, under the “Classwork” tab. Your final grade will be calculated as follows:

Paper 1 (reading autobiography)	15%
Paper 2 (long paper)	25%
Annotated bibliography	10%
Final project	10%
Drafts of papers 1 and 2, annotated bibliography, and final project	5%
Literature-circle work	10%
<a href="#">Commonplace book</a>	25%

You’ll see major due dates for both drafts and final versions of these assignments below. ***I’m willing to give you an extension on any assignment if you need one, but you need to email me before the deadline and give me a specific date and time when you plan to turn the assignment in.*** Assignments turned in late without having an approved extension will lose points.

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## **Academic Integrity**

The integrity of the classes offered by any academic institution solidifies the foundation of its mission and cannot be sacrificed to expediency, ignorance, or blatant fraud. Therefore, instructors will enforce rigorous standards of academic integrity in all aspects and assignments of their courses. For the detailed policy of West Virginia University regarding the definitions of acts considered to fall under academic dishonesty and possible ensuing sanctions, please see the [West Virginia University Academic Standards Policy](#).

Should you have any questions about possibly improper research citations or references, or any other activity that may be interpreted as an attempt at academic dishonesty, please see me before the assignment is due to discuss the matter. After all, as a writing-intensive course, one of our goals is to hone those skills!

## **Inclusivity Statement**

The West Virginia University community is committed to creating and fostering a positive learning and working environment based on open communication, mutual respect, and inclusion. If you are a person with a disability and anticipate needing any type of accommodation in order to participate in your classes, please advise your instructors and make appropriate arrangements with the [Office of Accessibility Services](#). More information is available at the [Division of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion](#) as well.

## **Sexual Misconduct Statement**

West Virginia University does not tolerate sexual misconduct, including harassment, stalking, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, or relationship violence. It is important for you to know that there are resources available if you or someone you know needs assistance. You may speak to a member of university administration, faculty, or staff; keep in mind that they have an obligation to report the incident to the [Title IX Coordinator](#).

If you want to speak to someone who is permitted to keep your disclosure confidential, please seek assistance from the Carruth Center, 304/293-9355 or 304/293-4431 (24-hour hotline), and locally within the community at the Rape and Domestic Violence Information Center (RDVIC), 304/292-5100 or 304/292-4431 (24-hour hotline).

For more information, please consult [WVU's Title IX Office](#).

## COVID-19 Syllabus Statement

WVU is committed to maintaining a safe learning environment for all students, faculty, and staff. If you should become sick or are required to quarantine during the semester, please notify me. We can then work together to develop a plan to receive the necessary course content, activities, and assessments to complete the course learning outcomes.

This semester is going to require a lot of flexibility and resilience on all our parts. If you ever feel overwhelmed, confused, or behind on the work for this class, please don't hesitate to contact me to discuss it. No need to discuss your particular circumstances--just let me know that you need extra support, and we'll figure out what accommodations are needed to help you out.

## Carruth Center

If we've learned nothing else in the last few months, it's that this pandemic is rough on the psyche. If you ever find yourself overwhelmed or are just in general need of assistance, I urge you to find professional help through WVU's Carruth Center. Though the physical center is closed, they're still able to support you, so don't hesitate to contact them. And remember that the WVU Crisis Text Line is available 24/7--just text WVU to 741741.



This class supports the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences' commitment to fostering students' abilities in writing, speaking, visual presentations, and multimedia communication. For resources, please visit [SpeakWrite.wvu.edu](https://speakwrite.wvu.edu).

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## Week-by-Week Schedule

*Here's our tentative week-by-week plan. Given the general instability of...well, all the things right now, this is open to adjustment and change. This syllabus is a living document, and I'll update it as we go. Still, here's the basic overview. FYI, all assignments will be posted on the "Classwork" stream on Google Classroom, and **you must turn all assignments in via Google Classroom.***

### Week of August 26-28

We will meet via [Zoom](#) on both Wednesday 8/26 and Friday 8/28 at our scheduled class time, 10:30-11:20 am. We'll start with some introductions and basic information about the course, and then start thinking about kids' reading habits and preferences.

### Week of August 31-September 4

We will meet via [Zoom](#) on both Monday 8/31 and Wednesday 9/2 at our scheduled class time, 10:30-11:20 am. We'll continue to discuss the history and evolution of YA as a genre, and we'll start reading Laurie Halse Anderson's *Speak*. **On Friday 9/4, the first installment of your commonplace book is due by 11:59 pm.**

### Week of September 7-11

We will meet via [Zoom](#) on Wednesday 9/9 at our scheduled class time, 10:30-11:20 am. We'll finish our discussion of Laurie Halse Anderson's *Speak*. **On Friday 9/11, the draft of the reading autobiography is due by 11:59 pm, and you'll need to respond to two other people's drafts by 11:59 pm on Monday 9/14.**

### Week of September 14-18

We will meet via [Zoom](#) on Monday 9/14 and Wednesday 9/16 at our scheduled class time, 10:30-11:20 am to discuss Gene Luen Yang's *American Born Chinese*. **On Friday 9/18, the second installment of your commonplace book is due by 11:59 pm.**

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## Week of September 21-25

**The final draft of your reading autobiography is due by 11:59 pm on Monday 9/21.**

We will meet via [Zoom](#) on Monday 9/21 and Wednesday 9/23 at our scheduled class time, 10:30-11:20 am. On these days, we'll be setting up and discussing the pedagogical purposes of literature circles. **You need to have chosen all four of the books for the lit circles by the end of the day on Wednesday 9/23.** On Friday 9/25, you'll have the first meeting of your first literature circle via Zoom.

## Week of September 28-October 2

Your first literature circle will be meeting for the second and third times this week, and **on Friday 10/2, the third installment of your commonplace book is due by 11:59 pm.**

## Week of October 5-9

We'll meet via [Zoom](#) on Monday 10/5 to discuss Paper 2 and to organize the second literature circle groups. On Wednesday and Friday, your lit circle groups will meet, and **on Friday 10/9, the proposal for your second paper is due by 11:59 pm.**

## Week of October 12-16

This week, your second lit circle group will meet, you'll be doing some preliminary research for your second paper, and **the fourth installment of your commonplace book is due on Friday 10/16 by 11:59 pm.**

## Week of October 19-23

We'll meet as a whole class via [Zoom](#) on Monday 10/19 to talk more about paper 2 and the annotated bibliography, and to organize the [third round of literature circles](#). Your lit-circle groups will meet on Wednesday and Friday, and **the fifth installment of your commonplace book is due on Friday 10/23 by 11:59 pm.**

## Week of October 26-30

Your third lit circle group will meet once more this week, and we'll meet as a whole class via [Zoom](#) on Wednesday 10/28 to discuss paper 2 and to organize the [fourth literature circles](#). **The draft of your annotated bibliography (including your shared resources) is due by 11:59 pm on Friday 10/30.**

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## Week of November 2-6

For Monday's [Zoom](#) class, read [Nancy Garden's article](#) about the history of LGBTQ+ YA lit. We'll discuss it before you meet with your fourth lit circle for the first time. You'll meet with your fourth lit circles on Wednesday and Friday, and **the final draft of your annotated bibliography is due by 11:59 pm on Friday 11/6.**

## Week of November 9-13

We'll meet as a whole class via [Zoom](#) on Monday 11/9 to discuss paper 2 and the responding process for the drafts. I'll start holding individual conferences on paper 2 drafts this week (sign up [here](#)), and **the sixth installment of your commonplace book is due by 11:59 pm on Friday 11/13.**

## Week of November 16-20

The **draft of your second paper is due by 11:59 pm on Monday 11/16**, and **you need to read and respond to two other people's drafts by the time class meets on Friday 11/20.** You'll be meeting in your responding groups via [Zoom](#) on Friday. I'll also be continuing individual conferences with each of you about your second paper this week.

## Week of November 23

We'll meet as a whole class via [Zoom](#) on Monday 11/23 to discuss the final project, **and the final draft of your second paper is due by 11:59pm on Tuesday 11/24.**

## Week of November 30-December 4

This week, you'll be working on your final project.

## Final Exam Week

**Final projects are due by 11:59 pm on Wednesday 12/9.**

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## Literature circle options

### ***Race, class, and history (choose one):***

Jerry Craft, [\*New Kid\*](#) (9780062691194)

Robin Ha, [\*Almost American Girl\*](#) (9780062685094)

Jason Reynolds & Ibram X. Kendi, [\*Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You\*](#) (9780316453691)

Nic Stone, [\*Dear Martin\*](#) (9781101939529)

Angie Thomas, [\*On the Come Up\*](#) (9780062498564)

### ***Graphic memoir (choose one):***

Jarrett Krosoczka, [\*Hey Kiddo\*](#) (9780545902489)

John Lewis, [\*March\*](#) box set (9781603093958)

Marjane Satrapi, [\*Persepolis 1\*](#) (9780375714573)

George Takei, [\*They Called Us Enemy\*](#) (9781603094504)

Gene Luen Yang, [\*Dragon Hoops\*](#) (9781626720794)

### ***Girlpower (choose one):***

Elizabeth Acevedo, [\*Clap When You Land\*](#) (9780062882769)

Laurie Halse Anderson, [\*Shout\*](#) (9780670012107)

Kim Johnson, [\*This is My America\*](#) (9780593118764)

Julie Murphy, [\*Faith Taking Flight\*](#) (9780062899651)

Erika Sanchez, [\*I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter\*](#) (9781524700515)

### ***LGBTQ+ YA lit (choose one):***

Kalynn Bayron, [\*Cinderella is Dead\*](#) (9781547603879)

Kirstin Cronn-Mills, [\*Beautiful Music for Ugly Children\*](#) (9780738732510)

Adib Khorram, [\*Darius the Great is Not OK\*](#) (9780525552970)

Kevin Panetta and Savanna Ganucheau, [\*Bloom\*](#) (9781626726413)

Mike Curato, [\*Flamer\*](#) (9781627796415)