

YA/Teen Literature YAY!

Taught by Ashley Smith and Brooke Schmidt

TINT The Innovative Northwest Teacher

1-5 Quarter Hour Graduate Credits

Renew your enthusiasm for Young Adult books! In this course, an independent exploration of choosing quality YA books, you will become familiar with a broad range of Teen Books. Learn how to select appropriate and quality YA books and design strategies to build an appreciation of literature, motivate students to become lifelong readers, and encourage critical thinking across the curriculum. Topics include the nature of teenage readers, genres of young adult literature, and engaging readers. Upon completion of this course, you will have created a biography of useful titles and planned lessons that are ready for immediate use. You will need to have a public or school library and Internet access available to you. Grades 6-12

To receive an A for this class you need to submit quality assignments that show a deep level of thought and appropriate amount of time spent working on the materials. I will respond to your assignments with my reflection. *You can assume your assignment has met the requirements of an A, if in this reflection I don't specifically ask you to make changes and resubmit.*

Submit assignments to: tintbhs@gmail.com.

Submit an introductory paragraph about yourself.

- 1 credit** submit 3 assignments and read 3 books.
- 2 credits** submit 5 assignments and read 4 books.
- 3 credits** submit 7 assignments and read 5 books.
- 4 credits** submit 9 assignments and read 6 books.
- 5 credits** submit 11 assignments and read 7 books.

Reading Log: Create a reading log that lists the titles of the YA/Teen books you have read for this class. Please choose new books you haven't read or used before. Submit this list at the end of the class

For each book you read (3-7 depending on # of credits) please list:

- *Title and author of book
- *Genre
- *A brief summary
- *A few sentences describing your reaction

Assignment Choices: Complete assignments from the options listed below.

Option 1. Write a reflection describing how you have chosen young adult/teen books to use with your students in the past. Tell about an experience you have had sharing a YA/teen book. What did you select? What was the reaction to this book?

Option 2. [Young adult literature in the 21st century](#) by Pam Cole has a chapter called *Trends and Issues in Young Adult Literature*. Read this chapter and write a response listing at least three things that stood out to you from this information.

Option 3. Read the Maverick article. *How Jason Reynolds Distinguishes Y.A. Books From Adult Fiction*. Write a reflection of what stood out to you from this interview. [Jason Reynolds](#)

Option 4. Choose five YA/Teen authors from any source and read their interviews. Describe who you picked and what stood out to you. [Interviews](#)

Option 5. Go to BuzzFeed Books article *37 YA Books You Need To Add To Your Reading List*. How many of these books have you read? List three titles you want to read and tell why. [37 YA Books](#) **AND** Go to TIME INC. *The 100 Best Young Adult Books of All Time*. How many of these books have you read? What three books were your favorites? Why? [TIME](#)

Option 6. Read School Library Journal Article *Where are the Just Right Books for Tweens?* Write a reaction to some of the suggestions for finding books for this age group. List some books you might recommend.

[Books-for-Tweens](#) [suggested tween books](#)

Option 7. Watch 15 YA video trailers from the Children’s Book Council. Write a response telling what you discovered. [YA Book Trailers](#)

Option 8. Create a plan for incorporating magazines, newspapers, and blogs into the curriculum that will interest YA/Teens.

Option 9. YALSA honors the best teen literature each year with its six literary awards, announced each year at the ALA Midwinter Meeting. Choose four of the awards and describe what the reward is given for. For each of the four awards, list 3 books that have been honored for each and indicate if you have read them or want to. [YALSA](#)

Option 10. Study pages 77-183 from the Common Core State Standards Appendix B. There are suggestions for stories, poetry, exemplar texts, and informational texts for each grade level 6-12. Choose 5 books from the list and write an explanation of why you chose these books and how you will use them. [CCSS Appendix B](#)

Option 11. Read New York Times article *Encouraging Teenagers to Read, by Choosing Books From the Non-Y.A. Shelves*. Create a list of books that you would recommend to teens that are not necessarily just for teens. [Choosing Non YA Books](#)

Option 12. Design an assessment activity to use at the conclusion of reading activity. It might be a checklist including standards met during work. It might be an exit questionnaire. Submit a copy of this plan. *Making the Reading Process Visible through Performance Assessment* from Read Think Write. [Assessment 6-12](#)

Option 13. Pinterest.com is a great way to organize and bookmark suggestions of books that could be used for YA/teens. Submit a link to the Pinterest board that you create along with a description of some book titles you would use. [Pinterest](#)

Option 14. Take Barnes and Noble trivia quiz *Warm Up for B-Fest’s Trivia Night with This YA Quiz*. Submit a response telling how you did on it. [YA Trivia](#)

Option 15. Book Riot has a quiz to help choose a YA book. <https://bookriot.com/ya-book-quiz/> . Take the quiz. What book did it suggest?

<https://bookriot.com/what-book-should-you-read-first-in-2024-quiz/>

Option 16. Create an author study of a YA/Teen author. Create a brochure or document sharing the most interesting information you have gathered. Include a plan for how you will use this author study with your students
[Reading Rockets Author Study Tips](#)

Option 17. Find 10 YA/Teen books dealing with a social theme such as bullying, teasing, diversity, sibling rivalry, divorce, friendship, relationships, self-esteem, well-being, self-respect, disabilities, or homelessness. List each book and tell what topics it covers.

Option 18. Pick four books you might choose for reading aloud and share why you might use them.

[1000 Best Middle Grade Books - Imagination Soup](#). Or

[Read-Aloud Favorites for Grades PreK-3 | Scholastic](#).

Option 19. Explore professional literature on choosing YA/Teen books. Spend some time reviewing and reading what other professionals say. Summarize what you discovered.

Option 20. *Business Insider* has listed 28 entertaining and thought provoking YA books adults might like to read. Check out the list and tell us the titles of any of these books you have read. List books you would like to read.[28 YA books](#)

REQUIRED: Reflection: Please write 1 to 2 paragraphs reflecting on the learning that you have done in this class. What next step are you most excited to take?

Thanks for choosing our class!
Ashley Smith and Brooke Schmidt