

C&I 67395

Special Topics: Multicultural Voices in Children’s and Young Adult Literature
3 Credit Hours

Instructor: Dr. Lori Wilfong
 E-mail: lgkrug@kent.edu
 Time: 8:30-12:30
 Room: Media Center, Herberich Primary School
 Days: 6/21-6/25 & 6/28-7/1
 Office Hours: By appointment!

By the end of these 9 days, you will be able to answer these questions:

- 1) What is multicultural literature?
- 2) Why is multicultural literature relevant to your curriculum?
- 3) How do we evaluate multicultural literature for authority and authenticity?
- 4) How is multicultural literature a mirror and window?

Evidence that these questions have been answered:

Question	Evidence
1) What is multicultural literature?	Each participant will develop a rationale for the use of multicultural literature with students.
2) Why is multicultural literature relevant to your curriculum?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Each participant will participate in literature circles with multicultural literature representative of several cultures. 2) Each participant will “workshop” several books that match up literature with current curricula across the content areas
3) How do we evaluate multicultural literature for authority and authenticity?	Each participant will be shown resources for evaluating multicultural literature and will contribute to a database with reviews of multicultural literature.
4) How is multicultural literature a mirror and window?	Each participant will develop a multicultural literature autobiography/text set.

Course Calendar

Date	Topic	Resources to bring to class
6/21	<i>Essential Questions: 1,3 & 4</i> Begin multicultural young adult literature circles Textmaster multicultural	Children’s or young adult book that reflects who you are (open to interpretation!)

	<p>education articles Book Pass personal multicultural books Introduction to evaluation tools for multicultural literature and our website Visit to the Fairlawn branch of the Summit County Library to search for books representative of ourselves!</p>	
6/22	<p><i>Essential Questions: 2 & 3</i> Around the world in 4 hours: <i>Children's</i> literature from the seven continents Matching books up to current curriculum standards; add books, lesson plans, and resources to website Book Pass children's literature Literature Circles meet</p>	<p>Children's book that represents a culture or region of one of the seven continents (assigned)</p>
6/23	<p><i>Essential Questions: 2 & 3</i> Around the world again in 4 hours: <i>Young adult</i> literature representative of the seven continents Matching books up to current curriculum standards; add books, lesson plans, and resources to website Book Pass young adult literature Literature Circles meet</p>	<p>Young adult book that represents a culture or region of one of the seven continents (assigned)</p>
6/24	<p><i>Essential Question: 4</i> Circles of my multicultural self (multicultural literature autobiography guidance) Video: Blue Eye/Brown Eye Textmaster multicultural literature rationale articles</p>	
6/25	<p><i>Essential Questions: 1-4</i> Visit to the Akron Public Library – time TBD</p>	
6/28	<p><i>Essential Questions: 1, 2,</i> The “new” multicultural literature: Literature that reflects diversity in ability,</p>	<p>Children's or young adult book that represents a “new” diversity: ability, gender, sexuality, etc.</p>

	gender, and sexuality Matching books up to current curriculum standards; add books, lesson plans, and resources to website Book Pass of new diversity literature Literature Circles meet	
6/29	<i>Essential Questions: 1, 2 & 3</i> Web resources for multicultural literature Literature Circles Meet	
6/30	<i>Essential Questions: 2 & 4</i> Multicultural Literature Autobiography Presentations Literature Circles Meet	Let's eat! Let's create a menu reflective of our personal multicultural autobiographies.
7/1	Literature Circle Culminating Activities Sharing of multicultural literature manifestos – create a composite rationale for the website	

This schedule is tentative and can be changed at the discretion of the instructor

Literature Circle Books (will need for Tuesday):

Asia: *Homeless Bird*, Gloria Whelan

Middle East: *Habibi*, Naomi Shihab Nye

Central America and the Caribbean: *Before We Were Free*, Julia Alvarez

North America: *An Unlikely Friendship: A Novel of Mary Todd Lincoln and Elizabeth Keckley*, Ann Rinaldi

Africa: *Journey to Jo'Burg: A South African Story*, Beverly Naidoo

Ability: *My Thirteenth Winter: A Memoir*, Samantha Abeel

Gender & Sexuality: *Weetzie Bat*, Francesca Lia Block (not for the faint!)

Workshop time (meet in computer lab):

On 6/22, 6/23, & /28, class will go as follows:

8:30-9:00 Book Pass

9:00-11:00 (in groups)

- 1) Evaluate and write annotated citations for books and find image.
- 2) Match books with curriculum standards
- 3) Find facts and statistics vital to the region/type of books that would assist in teaching about this region/type.
- 4) Create one lesson plan for a book from those that were brought in

- 5) Create an “about the reviewers” blurb
- 6) Post all artifacts on vista for the instructor to post on website

11:00-11:30 Share work informally

11:30-12:30 Literature Circles Meet

Grading

Workshop days (3; 10 points each)	_____	30
Literature Circle participation (5; 2 points each)	_____	10
Literature Circle Culminating Activity	_____	10 (rubric)
Textmaster Presentation (2; 10 points each)	_____	20 (rubric)
Annotated addition to web resources	_____	10 (rubric)
Multicultural Literature Autobiography	_____	10 (rubric)
Rationale for use of multicultural literature	_____	10 (rubric)
Total	_____	100

Grading Scale

92-100% A 90-91% A- 82-89% B 80-82% B- 72-79% C 70-71% C-

Participation:

This course will rely heavily on your attendance and participation. Several strategies will be actively practiced in class. Different group projects will help comprise your grade. Please contact the professor if you must miss a class in the case of an emergency.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

The use of the intellectual property of others without attributing it to them is considered a serious academic offense. Cheating or plagiarism will result in receiving a failing grade for the work or course. Repeat offenses result in dismissal from the University.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Kent State University recognizes its responsibility for creating an institutional atmosphere in which students with disabilities can succeed. In accordance with university policy, if you have a documented disability, you may request accommodations to obtain equal access in this class. Please contact the disability coordinator on campus at (330-672-3391). After your eligibility for accommodations is determined, you will be given a letter, which, when presented to instructors, will help us know best how to assist you.

Vista:

This course will make extensive use of vista, an online course organization tool. Use it to check your grades, verify your attendance, make copies of course power points, assignments, and

handouts, and to post various course assignments. If you are unfamiliar with vista, it is your responsibility to meet with the instructor to learn about it. <http://vista8.kent.edu>

WEBSITE

I have created a website so that our work during this course endures! It is a shell now; wait until the end when all of our work is posted! Visit www.multiculturaliterature.weebly.com