

## Young Adult Literature

**Teacher:** Mrs. Andersen

**Course Description:** Young Adult Literature consists of contemporary novels for young adults. Over a 12-week period we will read three novels. This class is designed for students who are motivated and have an interest in reading and participating in class discussions. A variety of themes will be discussed in class such as identity and relationships, teen violence and life changes. We will be reading *Breathing Underwater* by Alex Flinn, *Looking for Alaska* by John Green and *Elsewhere* by Gabrielle Zevin. You will also be “sampling” other young adult novels that correspond with your trimester project.

**Requirements:** Students are to bring the following items with them every day:

1. A pencil and/or pen;
2. A notebook in which to write down assignments, class notes or other important details;
3. A pocket folder containing class handouts, assignments, etc.;
4. A bookmark ☺;
5. An open, inquiring mind and a willingness to participate in class activities.

**Grading Scale:**

100-93 A	79-77 C+	62-60 D-
92-90 A-	76-73 C	59-0 E
89-87 B+	72-70 C-	
86-83 B	69-67 D+	
82-80 B-	66-63 D	

**Grades in this class are based on TOTAL POINTS. For example, a homework assignment may be worth 5-10 points, a quiz may be worth 20 points, and a project could be worth 50-100 points. Again, this is just an example for you to understand how points are earned.**

**\*\*The trimester project is the final exam for this course; therefore it is required to do. This project will be 20% of the student’s total grade.**

**Late Papers and Make-up work:** Students will be expected to complete all assignments on time. **Late daily work and homework will not be accepted.** Late projects and/or major papers will receive a reduced grade for each day it is late for up to two days. Anything later than this will receive a “0.”

Students who are absent on a given day are expected to check with the teacher upon their return to find out what needs to be made up. If a student is absent the day prior to a paper's due date, it is still due on the assigned day. Students will have been given sufficient time to plan and work on the assignment. If the student is absent the day a paper or presentation is due, it needs to be turned in the day that the student returns to school.

**A Final Note:** If questions arise about\_ any of the course material, assignment directions, or whatever, **please do not hesitate to ask the teacher for clarification or extra help.** It is always better to ask and be sure of what is going on than to guess and possibly do things wrong.

#### **Assessments:**

- *Daily Assessments*- Varying from discussions, blogs, lit. circles, reading response journals, etc.
- *Formal Assessments*- Quizzes, Socratic Seminars, written book response, and each unit ends with a project
- *Trimester Project*

#### **Class Rules:**

1. **Academic Misconduct -- Plagiarism** (using the ideas and words of others without clearly acknowledging the source of the information; violation of federal copyright law), cheating, falsification, tampering, and assisting others in these endeavors will not be tolerated. Depending on the severity of the offense, consequences may range from a failing grade for the assignment, marking period, or the semester.
2. **Students are not to use abusive or inappropriate language in class.** Students will show respect for their classmates and teacher at all times.
3. **Students will be expected to conduct themselves in a mature manner while in class.** Be attentive to what classmates and the teacher have to say about the material being discussed.
4. **Cell phone use is not permitted in this class.**
5. **Students are to bring necessary class materials with them every day.**