

YA Lit Intro Project

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What is Young Adult Literature?

The term “young adult literature” is inherently amorphous, for its constituent terms “young adult” and “literature” are dynamic, changing as culture and society – which provide their context – change. When the term first found common usage in the late 1960’s, it referred to realistic fiction that was set in the real (as opposed to imagined), contemporary world and addressed problems, issues, and life circumstances of interest to young readers aged approximately 12-18. Such titles were issued by the children’s book divisions of American publishers and were marketed to institutions – libraries and schools – that served such populations.



History of YA Lit

Though young adult literature has arguably existed since at least Laura Ingalls Wilder's Little House series, which was published in the 1930s, teachers and librarians were slow to accept books for teenagers as a genre. ... Just seven years later, the phrase “young adult” was becoming increasingly common in libraries.



Authorship Awards

There are many different authorship awards, some include...

- The National Book Award
- Pulitzer Prize
- Booker Prize
- Nobel Prize

These are important because they get a lot of attention around them, they draw in a audience and whether the author wins or not, they still get exposure.



My Reading as a Child

When I was a kid I was obsessed with reading. I would read almost all of the time. I would have a new book every week. My parents had to keep telling me to put the book down. That's something you usually don't have to tell your kids. I would even read books at the dinner table because I couldn't put it down.



Reading Challenges

Something that challenges me with reading is finding a book that I am genuinely interested in. Recently I've been finding it hard to just sit down and read a book. I can't really focus on one book and I tend to get distracted easily.



Reading Interests

Some of my reading interests would be books about true stories. I like when stories are either from the actual person or based off a true story. I also like when they tell stories about big breakthroughs for women or have a strong woman main character.



Reading Goal for the Class

My reading goal for the class is to finish at least 6 books and find ones that I am actually interested in.



Reading Philosophy

I think that reading rewrites the world. It also makes it more likely you can shape that world – not only via the basic benefits of literacy, but also through compassion, imagination, creativity and knowledge.

