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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Evidence</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1) What is multicultural literature?</td>
<td>Each participant will develop a rationale for the use of multicultural literature with students.</td>
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</table>
| 2) Why is multicultural literature relevant to your curriculum?          | 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

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Resources to bring to class</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6/21</td>
<td>Essential Questions: 1,3 &amp; 4 Begin multicultural young adult literature circles Textmaster multicultural</td>
<td>Children’s or young adult book that reflects who you are (open to interpretation!)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Essential Questions: 2 &amp; 3</td>
<td>Activity Details</td>
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<td>6/22</td>
<td>Around the world in 4 hours: <em>Children’s</em> literature from the seven continents</td>
<td>Matching books up to current curriculum standards; add books, lesson plans, and resources to website Book Pass children’s literature Literature Circles meet</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/23</td>
<td>Around the world again in 4 hours: <em>Young adult</em> literature representative of the seven continents</td>
<td>Matching books up to current curriculum standards; add books, lesson plans, and resources to website Book Pass young adult literature Literature Circles meet</td>
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<td>6/24</td>
<td>Essential Question: 4</td>
<td>Circles of my multicultural self (multicultural literature autobiography guidance) Video: <em>Blue Eye/Brown Eye</em> Textmaster multicultural literature rationale articles</td>
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<td>6/25</td>
<td>Essential Questions: 1-4</td>
<td>Visit to the Akron Public Library – time TBD</td>
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<td>6/28</td>
<td>Essential Questions: 1, 2, The “new” multicultural literature: Literature that reflects diversity in ability,</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Activity</td>
<td>Essential Questions</td>
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<td>6/29</td>
<td><strong>Essential Questions: 1, 2 &amp; 3</strong> Web resources for multicultural literature</td>
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<td>Literature Circles Meet</td>
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<td>6/30</td>
<td><strong>Essential Questions: 2 &amp; 4</strong> Multicultural Literature Autobiography Presentations</td>
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<td>Literature Circles Meet</td>
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<td>7/1</td>
<td>Literature Circle Culminating Activities</td>
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<td>Sharing of multicultural literature manifestos – create a composite rationale for the website</td>
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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
- Africa: *Journey to Jo’Burg: A South African Story*, Beverly Naidoo
- Gender & Sexuality: *Weetzie Bat*, Francesca Lia Block (not for the faint!)

Workshop time (meet in computer lab):
On 6/22, 6/23, & 6/28, 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.multiculturalliterature.weebly.com