



1-day course

Building a Culture of Readers : Young Adult Fiction

September 6th, 2019

Target audience

English teachers at secondary I and secondary II-levels

Date and schedule

September 6th, 2019
9.00 a.m. - 5.30 p.m.

Course venue

UNIL-EPFL Campus,
Lausanne

Certification

A certificate of participation will be delivered at the end of the course.

Teaching approach

Through lectures, discussions and workshops, the course will introduce participants to a range of texts (tales, novels, poems, comic books) with a focus on the benefits of close reading. Participants are encouraged to share their experience and their pedagogical reflection on the role of literature in building a culture of readers.

Organization

- English Department, Faculté des lettres, Université de Lausanne

Introduction

Young Adult fiction encourages readers to discover or rediscover the manifold pleasures and challenges of reading to address questions about life, their developing self and their relation to the world.

Like Jane Eyre poring over Bewick's *History of British Birds* as a source of comfort or David Copperfield's reading of the *Arabian Nights* 'as if for life', many writers have stressed the role of books read in childhood as a memorable and life-changing (sometimes even life-giving) experience. As a result, many stories for children, young adults or a crossover audience represent books as magical, spell-binding objects, and words as a source of endless wonder; the word 'grammar' itself derives from 'grimoire' or book of spells, and the ancient image of the world as a book to be deciphered is still relevant today.

This course will focus on age-old fairy tales revisited and recent classics (*Narnia Chronicles*, *The Lord of the Rings*, *Harry Potter* and Philip Pullman's trilogy) and it will also propose alternative texts that bring a fresh approach to the subject, such as the poetry of Laura Kasischke, contemporary short story collections, comic novels and even Jane Austen's juvenalia.

Objectives

- Discover new texts and genres associated with YA literature and explore its scope and variety by reading a representative body of work in different genres and styles
- Learn the history and characteristics of YA literature and discover new ways of approaching it as a complex and multi-layered reading experience
- Experience how writing for a crossover audience is uniquely open to reader participation as it develops close reading skills, critical thinking, and creativity
- Reflect on relevant approaches, pedagogical strategies and teaching resources for teenagers and young adults as well as teachers based on literary resources and other material
- Stimulate reflection on the role that literature can play in enhancing YA's reading abilities and their intellectual, ethical, political, cultural and societal implications.

Building a Culture of Readers : Young Adult Fiction

Register on www.formation-continue-unil-epfl.ch/en

Course fee

- CHF 200.– including coffee breaks.

Registration deadline

June 28, 2019.

Places are limited.

Head of training

- **Prof. Martine Hennard Dutheil de la Rochère**, Head of Continuing Education for English, UNIL
- **Dr. Boris Vejvodsky**, Senior lecturer of American Literature, English Department, UNIL, assisted by **Dr. Marie Emilie Walz**

Teachers

- **Prof. Diane Purkiss**, Prof. of English Literature, Keble College, Oxford
- **Prof. Rachel Falconer**, Prof. of Modern English Literature, English Department, UNIL
- **Prof. Martine Hennard Dutheil de la Rochère**, Prof. of English and Comparative Literature, UNIL
- **Dr. Marie Emilie Walz**, Junior lecturer of English and Comparative Literature, English Department, UNIL
- **Dr. Enit Steiner**, Senior lecturer of Modern English Literature, English Department, UNIL
- **Dr. Boris Vejvodsky**, Senior lecturer of American Literature, English Department, UNIL
- **Shanon Sooknah**, MA student in pedagogy and cultural mediation, UNIL



Programme

Morning lectures :

(9.00 a.m.-12.00 p.m.)

- Welcome by **Martine Hennard Dutheil de la Rochère** and **Boris Vejvodsky**
- **Diane Purkiss** : From Blank Page to World: The Magic of Writing and World Building in CS Lewis, JRR Tolkien, and Their Successors
- **Rachel Falconer** : Coming of Age in a Fantasy World : Philip Pullman's *His Dark Materials*
- **Martine Hennard Dutheil de la Rochère** : 'Fables of the Politics of Experience' : Contemporary Fairy-tale Retellings for Young Adults, from *Briar Rose* to *The Armless Maiden and Other Tales for Childhood Survivors*

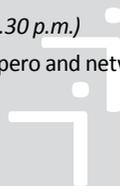
Afternoon talks and workshops :

(1.30 p.m.-4.45 p.m.)

- **Marie Emilie Walz** : Learning to Read Alterities : Rewritings of 'Beauty and the Beast' for Young Adults
- **Enit Steiner** : 'MADAM You are a Phoenix' : Austen's Juvenilia
- **Boris Vejvodsky** and **Shanon Sooknah** on Laura Kasischke's poetry
- **Shanon Sooknah** presents Matthew Wake's books, pedagogical material, and teaching resources

(4.45 p.m.-5.30 p.m.)

- Closing apero and networking



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