

Spring 2005-Honors 120: Issues of Social Justice in Children's Literature

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Class 1: January 10-Introductions, class texts

Students receive NightJohn and/or European FairyTale Classics

Independent reading and reflection from critical stance:

What messages does it give to reader from inside and other perspectives?

Class 2: January 24-Reflection on book choices.

-Who and how might the selections effect the class as a group? Individual?

Use MLK's *I Have a Dream* speech as example

-What books do you remember from your experiences? Can you look at them now critically and see why they might have had a positive, negative and/or neutral effect?

-Write autobiography of self as a consumer of literature.

Share. Add to over the next couple of weeks.

Share King and Kings. Think about this. Think about the controversy. How would you react? How would you react as an author, bookstore owner, parent, teacher?

Class 3: February 7-Attend speaker presentation on Issues in Adolescent Literacy,

Chris Crutcher. Edn building, Rm 162. 6:30-7:30

Attend as a critical reflector, using insight from previous work

Assignment: visit Barnes and Noble or other bookstore over next week to observe marketing of valentines, Presidents Day and other "culturally significant" days in children's section

Class 4: February 21- Reflection on marketing techniques of children's literature

Follow up with Chris Crutcher presentation

Survey of children's books

Class 5: March 7-Survey of children's books

Create annotated list of social justice issues addressed in the books

Use James Banks' paradigm of Multicultural Education as guide

Class 6: March 21-Look at lesson plan design

Develop literature based social justice lessons for 3 age groups (K-2, 3-6, 7-9)  
using Banks' Transformational Multicultural Education as guidelines

Class 7: April 4-Lesson feedback from teachers on lesson plans

Survey of children's literature using electronic texts

Visit tech lab (Edn building) to survey texts

Class 8: April 18-Final reflections due

Create annotated list of recommended social justice texts, including traditional and electronic,