

ABSTRACT

DISSERTATION/THESIS/RESEARCH PAPER/CREATIVE PROJECT: An Argument for Young Adult Literature in the University ESL Classroom

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The main focus of this project is to design and implement a reading course that works towards inspiring ELs to want to read in English. In my project I design and implement an intermediate reading course that uses young adult literature as a primary source of input for the students. Materials and lesson plans are designed with young adult texts, using the research behind Extensive Reading and Reader-Response Theory. Students read one novel as a class and a second novel of their choice. The young adult novels are the bulk of the material taught and are used to teach both reading fluency and reading skills. Throughout the course data is gathered by questionnaires, reading journals, and instructor observation notes. The data analysis suggests that students enjoyed the class and found the materials motivating and interesting. Data also suggests that students were encouraged to continue reading on their own after the class was finished.