

# ENGL 444 Pirates, Fags and New Women: Victorian and Edwardian Adolescent Fiction

**Trimester 1 2010**

1 March to 4 July 2010

30 Points

## TRIMESTER DATES

Teaching dates: 1 March 2010 to 4 June 2010

Mid-trimester break: 5 April to 18 April 2010

Study week: 7 June to 11 June 2010

Examination/Assessment period: 11 June to 4 July 2010

**Note:** Students who enrol in courses with examinations are expected to be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the formal examination period.

## WITHDRAWAL DATES

Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds.aspx>

## STAFF NAMES AND CONTACT DETAILS

**Lecturers:** Dr Charles Ferrall, VZ 904, Ext. 6804; [Charles.Ferrall@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:Charles.Ferrall@vuw.ac.nz).

Dr Anna Jackson, VZ 918, Ext. 6840; [Anna.Jackson@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:Anna.Jackson@vuw.ac.nz)

**Student Consultation Time:** Students may make an appointment with either of the two lecturers to discuss any aspect of the course at any mutually convenient time.

## CLASS TIMES AND LOCATIONS

Seminars in VZ 802 from Wed. 10am – 1pm

## COURSE DELIVERY

Students are expected to attend all seminars and make one class presentation.

## COMMUNICATION OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional information will be conveyed to students by e-mail.

## COURSE CONTENT

In this course students will read a number of canonical texts for or about adolescents and place them in their historical and social context. Students will also be required to read a number of magazines for adolescents such as the *Boys' and Girls' Own Papers* at the Dorothy Neale White collection in the National Library.

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the end of the course students should:

- have a familiarity with all the set texts;
- have a familiarity with some of the magazines for adolescents;
- have a familiarity with a selection of critical writings concerning these works;
- be able to construct their own discussion of the central issues involved.

## EXPECTED WORKLOAD

You should expect to spend, on **average**, about 15 hours per week on work for this course (**apart** from time in class). **Please note that this is a rough guideline only.** Some students might have to put in more time, others less. The time commitment will be greatest in the weeks immediately prior to essay submission dates.

## GROUP WORK

### ***Research presentations***

Group research presentations are compulsory but not assessed. However students are encouraged to use this work in their essays and the exam. The membership of these groups and the topic of their presentation will be determined in the first seminar. Research is to be conducted at the Dorothy Neale White Children's Library at the National Library.

1. Look at some school stories in the Boys' Own Paper and Chums and describe the generic plot.
2. Look at other college novels (eg. Stronach's *A Newnham Friendship*) and compare their openings and/or descriptions of college rooms; or: look at a range of L.T. Meade novels and compare the descriptions of the heroines.
3. Look at a range of Henty novels and describe the generic plot.
4. What in the boys' magazines indicates an adolescent (as opposed to child) audience?

5. What in the girls' magazines indicates an adolescent audience?
6. Or, more broadly, what kind of readership is indicated in terms of class, gender, age?
7. How conservative or how progressive are the magazines and annuals?
8. Check out Bessie Marchant as the girls' equivalent of Henty.
9. Compare Robinson Crusoe to a number of Robinsonades.
10. Come up with your own topic.

Students will be given guidance on how to undertake research for these topics.

## READINGS

For the first two weeks of trimester all undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from the Memorial Theatre foyer, while postgraduate textbooks and student notes will be available from the top floor of vicbooks in the Student Union Building, Kelburn Campus. After week two all undergraduate textbooks will be sold from vicbooks and student notes from the Student Notes Distribution Centre on the ground floor of the Student Union Building. You can order textbooks and student notes online at [www.vicbooks.co.nz](http://www.vicbooks.co.nz) or can email an order or enquiry to [enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz](mailto:enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz). Books can be couriered to you or they can be picked up from the shop. You will be contacted when they are available.

### Essential texts:

Thomas Hughes, *Tom Brown's Schooldays*; Rudyard Kipling, *Kim*; Robert Louis Stevenson, *Treasure Island*; J.M. Barrie, *Peter Pan*; Rider Haggard, *King Solomon's Mines*; L.D. Meade, *A Sweet Girl Graduate*; Amy Levy, *The Romance of a Shop*; Jessy Vaizey, *Tom and Some Other Girls*; and Olive Schreiner, *Story of an African*.

### Recommended Reading:

The following texts are recommended and will be held on three day loan:

Sarah Bilston, *The Awkward Age*

Sally Mitchell, *The New Girl*

Kim Reynolds, *Girls Only? Gender and Popular Children's Fiction in Britain 1880 – 1910*

J S Bratton, *The Impact of Victorian Children's Fiction*

Carol Dyhouse, *Girls growing up in Late Victorian and Edwardian England*

Judith Rowbotham *Good Girls Make Good Wives: Guidance for girls in Victorian Fiction*

Rosemary Auchmuty, *A World of Girls*

G.M. Young, *Victorian England :Portrait of an Age*.

Martha Vicinus, *Widening Sphere: Changing Roles of Victorian Women*.

Altick, Richard D, *The English Common Reader: A Social History of the Mass Reading Public, 1800-1900*.

Ariès, Philippe. *Centuries of Childhood*.

- Arnold, Guy. *Held Fast for England: G.A. Henty, Imperialist Boys' Writer*
- Bamford, T.W. *Rise of the Public Schools: A Study of Boys' Public Boarding Schools in England and Wales from 1837 to the Present Day.*
- Bristow, Joseph. *Empire Boys: Adventures in a Man's World*
- Chandos, John. *Boys Together: English Public Schools 1800-1864.*
- Cunningham, Hugh. *Children and Childhood in Western Society Since 1500.*
- Gathorne-Hardy, Jonathan. *The Public School Phenomenon, 597-1977.*
- Green, Martin. *Dreams of Adventure, Deeds of Empire*
- Hall, G. Stanley. *Adolescence: Its Psychology and its Relations to Physiology, Anthropology, Sociology, Sex, Crime, Religion and Education.* 2 Vols
- Heywood, Colin. *A History of Childhood: Children and Childhood in the West from Medieval to Modern Times*
- Honey, J.R. de S. *Tom Brown's Universe: the Development of the Victorian Public School*
- MacKenzie, John M (Ed.) *Imperialism and Popular Culture*
- Mintz, Stephen. *Huck's Raft: A History of American Childhood*
- Moss, Robert F. *Rudyard Kipling and the Fiction of Adolescence.*
- Orwell, George. "Boys' Weeklies". *The Collected Essays, Journalism and Letters of George Orwell. Vol. 1*
- Quigly, Isabel. *The Heirs of Tom Brown: The English School Story*
- Richards, Jeffrey. *Happiest Days: The Public Schools in English Fiction.*
- . Ed. *Imperialism and Juvenile Literature*
- Ferrall, Charles and Anna Jackson, *Juvenile Literature and British Society, 1850-1950; The Age of Adolescence*

## ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

There will be two essays set during the course worth 25% each and a final 3-hour examination worth 50%. Students will be expected to write exam questions on at least three of the writers on whom they have not written essays. The exam is open-book.

It is important that your essays are considered, well-planned pieces of writing, and not drafts. You are assessed on your ability to control material, handle ideas, write concisely and directly, and relate your critical views to specific textual locations. Essays should be approximately 2500 words.

## ASSIGNMENT COVER SHEETS

Assignment cover sheets and extension forms can be found on Blackboard or outside the Programme office. Remember to fill in your tutor's name.

## PENALTIES AND EXTENSIONS

If work is handed in late, then one grade is subtracted and no comments are offered.

### Extensions

Extensions will be granted only in exceptional and unforeseen circumstances. Issues of workload do not constitute exceptional and unforeseen circumstances. If you require an extension, you must complete an extension request form (available on your course Blackboard site) prior to the assignment due date. This must be accompanied by relevant documentation (e.g. a doctor's certificate) where appropriate.

## MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

The minimum course requirements that must be satisfied are submission of both essays, sitting the final examination and attendance at all of the seminars.

## CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

A class representative will be elected in the first class, and that person's name and contact details will be available to VUWSA, the Course Coordinator and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course Coordinator on behalf of students.

## STATEMENT ON LEGIBILITY

You are expected to present work that meets appropriate standards. Work submitted during the course (i. e. work that is internally assessed) should be typed or prepared on a computer. Work submitted in the final examination will obviously be handwritten. You are expected to write clearly. Where work is deemed 'illegible', you will be given a photocopy of the work and asked to transcribe it to an acceptable standard (preferably typed) within a specified time frame.

## ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PLAGIARISM

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

#### **GENERAL UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND STATUTES**

You should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the Victoria University Calendar or go to the Academic Policy and Student Policy sections on: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy>

The AVC (Academic) website also provides information in a number of areas including Academic Grievances, Student and Staff conduct, Meeting the needs of students with impairments, and student support/VUWSA student advocates. This website can be accessed at:

[http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about\\_victoria/avcacademic/Publications.aspx](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcacademic/Publications.aspx)

## COURSE PROGRAMME

Week 1	3 March	Introduction. No reading required.
Week 2	10 March	<i>Tom Brown's Schooldays</i>
Week 3	17 March	<i>Kim</i> 1 <sup>st</sup> presentation
Week 4	24 March	<i>A Sweet Girl Graduate</i> 2 <sup>nd</sup> presentation
Week 5	31 March	<i>The Romance of a Shop</i> First essay due
<b>Mid Trimester Break: Friday 2 April– Sunday 18 April 2010</b>		
Week 6	21 April	<i>Treasure Island</i>
Week 7	28 April	3 <sup>rd</sup> – 5 <sup>th</sup> presentations
Week 8	5 May	<i>Peter Pan</i>
Week 9	12 May	<i>King Solomon's Mines</i> 6 <sup>th</sup> presentation
Week 10	19 May	<i>Tom and Some Other Girls</i> final presentation
Week 11	26 May	<i>The Story of an African Farm</i> second essay due
Week 12	2 June	Conclusion. No reading required

**Study Week:** Monday 7 June to Friday 11 June 2010

**Examination Period:** Friday 11 June – Sunday 4 July 2010