

Proposal for English 102: Inquiry Into the Adolescent Mind
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In this course, students will examine the milestone of adolescence and its status as a microcosm of the culture-at-large. Throughout the semester, we will analyze how the maturation into a young adult relates to larger societal issues in order to challenge students to think about personal experiences in global and historical contexts.

Students will examine a variety of texts related to young adults, including Curtis Sittenfeld's novel *Prep*, J.D. Salinger's novel *The Catcher in the Rye*, and websites such as My Space and Facebook. In addition, students will view selected episodes of television programs such as *The O.C.* and *Veronica Mars* and several films that portray adolescence, including *Rebel Without a Cause*, *Fast Times at Ridgemont High*, and *Igby Goes Down*.

Assignments for the course include five reading responses (1 page each), three papers (4-5 pages), and a research project.