

NEW Spring 2013 Course!!!

Changing Families

ENGLIT 0617

Tuesdays and Thursdays

11 – 12:15

In our society there are many families that in some way break mainstream traditions of family construction. They are not headed by a man and a woman of the same race, or if they are, others were also involved in the child's birth, either parents who gave up the child to adoption or people who contributed sperm, eggs, and/or womb through assisted reproductive technology. In addition, immigration and/or poverty may mean children are growing up in foster homes or with other relatives. Though some of these situations are older than Dickens, many new family patterns may demand new plots and new kinds of literary analysis, as well as new forms of self-presentation by the participants.

We will explore varying perspectives on changing family experiences by reading and discussing recent writings from the US and the UK: novels from authors such as Barbara Kingsolver, Jackie Kay, and Jacqueline Woodson, and memoirs by authors such as Danzy Senna, Mei-Ling Hopgood (who will speak here), Jesse Green, and Carlos Eire.

taught by

Professor Marianne

Novy

Fulfills Literature General Education Requirement

