

050:341      The Child in America

The Child in America examines the evolution of concepts of childhood and adolescence and of child-rearing practices from the colonial era through the present via an analysis of social history, religious tracts, novels, poetry, film, and child care manuals. We will study such issues as child discipline; the impact of religion on child-rearing practices; homelessness; the effects of race, gender, ethnicity, and sexuality on childhood development; and the cultural significance of toys.

Among the books we will read are Stephen Crane's *Maggie: A Girl of the Streets* (1893), John Dewey's *The Child and the Curriculum* (1902) and *The School and Society* (1915), Henry Roth's *Call It Sleep* (1934), Claude Brown's *Manchild in the Promised Land* (1965), Esmeralda Santiago's *When I Was Puerto Rican* (1994), and J. D. Salinger's *The Catcher in the Rye* (1951).