

Course Syllabus for Sarah Ward

Course Title: Psychology Through Literature	
Subject: ENGLISH/PSYC	Date Completed: June, 2008
Credit: 1.0	Grade Earned: A+
<p>Course Description: The student selected and read 16 novels and memoirs exploring a broad range of topics in abnormal psychology and psychology of adjustment. These topics include adjustment to disability, grief, and childhood abuse. They also include developmental differences such as autism, Asperger's Syndrome, and mental retardation and various aspects of mental illness. The student explored a variety of non-fiction sources including college-level textbooks, trade books for clinicians and parents, and on-line resources. She has also explored some case studies.</p>	
<p>Evaluation Criteria: The student and parent agreed to these criteria:</p> <p>To earn a "C" –</p> <p>X Read and discuss at least 4 books on this topic.</p> <p>X Develop understanding of the topic through self-directed research, including various non-fiction sources.</p> <p>Additional requirements to earn a "B" –</p> <p>X Read and discuss a total of 6-8 books on this topic.</p> <p>Additional requirements to earn an "A" –</p> <p>X Read and discuss a total of 10-12 books on this topic.</p>	
<p>Books:</p> <p>Physical Disability: <i>Stuck in Neutral</i> by Terry Trueman</p> <p>Grief: <i>The Lovely Bones</i> by Alice Sebold</p>	

Child Abuse/Sexual Abuse:

The Boy from the Basement by Susan Shaw
Learning to Swim: A Memoir by Ann Turner
Running with Scissors by Augusten Burroughs
Jumping the Scratch by Sarah Weeks

Autism and Asperger's Syndrome:

Clay by Colby Rodowsky
Look Me in the Eye: My Life With Asperger's by John Elder Robison
Rules by Cynthia Lord
The Silent Boy by Lois Lowry
Are You Alone on Purpose? by Nancy Werlin
The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time by Mark Haddon

Mental Retardation:

A Small White Scar by K.A. Nuzum

Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder/Mental Illness:

Kissing Doorknobs by Terry Spencer Hesser
Cut by Patricia McCormick
Not As Crazy as I Seem by George Harrar