LTWL 116: Girls in Literature

Summer Session 1 (June 27 – July 30, 2022)
TTh 8:00-10:50AM in CENTR 203 (on campus)
Instructor: Hannah Doermann

This course explores representations of girls in 20th- and 21st-century U.S. American literature for readers of different ages. We will ask, How is girlhood imagined in different contexts? How does girlhood function as a racialized category? How is girlhood tied to the social construction of childhood, adolescence, and adulthood? How can we queer girlhood? Reading Young Adult and adult novels as well as films alongside theoretical texts in Girl Studies and Youth Studies, we will discuss how literature constructs girlhood in relation to age, gender, race, class, and sexuality. Units will include “Girl” Books, Queer Girlhood, Racialized Girlhood, and Apocalyptic Girlhood.