

21W.758 Genre Fiction - Instructor's Notes by Shariann Lewitt

Class 1

What is genre fiction?

Is it a marketing category?

Is it real?

What defines something as genre?

(literary fiction?)

Name genres -

currently popular?

formerly popular? (western?)

most sales? (Romance!)

Harlequin sales model

Cycles and Styles-

Some genres die and are reborn

Some go through styles

Some go through periods of mainstream popularity

Many genre writers write in more than one genre, mostly under multiple names.

Why do we like it?

What we know

What we don't know

As readers, we love identifying that which we know well (often place, procedure etc.), and that which is exciting, new, and alien.

genre fiction - we're thinking popular/fun to read.

Does fun to read = easy to write?

No.

literary and genre?

Your genre(s)

Favorite books/authors

Think about specific elements

What about this element/genre?

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