

Education, Childhood and Youth in Popular Culture (Semester 2)

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This module sets out to explore the way schools, teachers and their students are represented in popular culture, specifically in selected key film and television texts and literary works. The module will examine educational themes which recur and the way they reflect contemporary debates about the purpose of education, childhood, youth culture and teacher role/performance. Does popular culture embody alternative perspectives of education and its societal role, or does it tend to reproduce common stereotypes and popular myths? How can we explain the enduring popularity of reliving school days through fictional books and moving image texts?

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