“Oh, Just Grow Up:” Literary Adventures in the Experience of Growth and Change
HARRY MARTEN, EDWARD E. HALE, JR. PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH EMERITUS AT UNION COLLEGE

TUESDAYS
NOVEMBER 5, 12, 19, 26 AND DECEMBER 3, 2019
9:30 to 11:30 a.m. / Location TBD
COORDINATOR: LINDA DOYLE

“Oh, just grow up.” It’s a cliché, of course, but many of us have said it in moments of exasperation with the behavior of a teenager, a colleague, a friend, a partner. But as another cliché would have it, “growing up is hard to do.”

In this class we will read 19th, 20th and 21st-century novels and short stories that explore the experiences that bring us from childhood to maturity. We’ll consider such subjects as: a character’s family life; ambition; psychological crises; the function of memory; differences relating to class, wealth, rural and urban locations; the discovery of—or failure to discover—a sense of self; fear of the future or the past; what it means to have a famous father or mother; and what it means to have a parent who is a failure.

This will be an active discussion class. Participants should read and be prepared to discuss the following:

11/5 | Great Expectations by Charles Dickens
11/12 | Great Expectations continued
11/19 | A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man by James Joyce
11/26 | Burger’s Daughter by Nadine Gordimer
12/3 | How to Breathe Underwater by Julie Orringer

In order to allow for an active discussion, registration will be limited to 25 UCALL members.

To register, complete the form below and mail it along with your check (payable to UCALL) to:
UCALL, Union College, 807 Union Street, Schenectady, NY 12308

“Oh, Just Grow Up”

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY   STATE   ZIP

PHONE    EMAIL

UCALL Member Fee: $30

(office use)
Check # _______ Amount $ _______ Date Received _______