

English 4399.01W: Children's Literature

Fall 2017  
Thursday 6:00-8:50  
The Woodlands Center 231

Dr. Sanchez  
email: rxs031@shsu.edu  
Office: Evans 209, Ext.: 294-1427  
Office Hours: Main Campus, Mon. & Wed.  
3:00-4:00, and by appointment.  
Woodlands Center, see  
me after class and by appointment.

**Laptops are not permitted in this class. Turn off and put away all cell phones and electronic devices. Text messaging is not allowed during this class. Students may not have food, including snacks, during class.**

Required Text:

*The Norton Anthology of Children's Literature*, edited by Jack Zipes (W.W. Norton)

Course Description:

Prerequisites: English 1301, 1302, either English 2332 or 2333, English 3384, and 6 completed hours of English 3000-level courses. Credit hrs. 3. In this course we will analyze and evaluate works specifically intended for young readers. Many of these works are considered classics of children's literature. Through close readings of these selected texts, we will determine what the term *children's literature* means and why it is an important subject of study. We will develop a methodology and criteria by which to consider children's literature as a specific literary genre, with an aim toward understanding the historical and literary backgrounds of that genre. Keep up with the reading and come to class prepared to participate in class discussion.

Attendance and Tardiness Policies:

You are allowed one unexcused absence. Beginning with the second unexcused absence, each unexcused absence will result in the loss of five points on your overall point total for the semester. An absence will be considered "excused" only after notification has been presented (for example, an official form or a note) which enables the instructor to verify the absence as excused; the notification must be presented for verification either in advance of the absence or by the end of the second working day after the absence. At the end of the semester, excuses offered for classes missed during the semester will not be accepted. Get to class on time. Two times late to class will count as one unexcused absence. Any student who misses 30+ minutes—either at the beginning or at the end of a class session—will be marked absent for the class session. Leaving class early before the instructor has dismissed the class (unless arrangements have been made with and approved by the instructor) is unacceptable behavior and will result in the student being marked down as late for the class session.

Mid-Term Exam:

The mid-term will cover the material up to that point in the semester (material which comes out of readings, lectures, and discussions); its form will be objective, consisting of the following types of questions: multiple choice, matching, true-false, definitions, character identifications, quotations identifications. There will not be an essay on the mid-term. If you miss the mid-term as a result of an absence, a make-up will be considered only with verifiable justification according to the “Attendance and Lateness Policies” section above. There is no make-up for a mid-term missed during an unexcused absence. The mid-term will be worth 100 points, and will be graded on a 10% scale as follows:

100-91 = A / 90-81 = B / 80-71 = C / 70-61 = D / 60 and below = F

#### Paper:

The paper will be six to eight pages long, formatted and documented according to the most recent edition of the MLA Handbook. You will receive specific topic questions from which to choose in advance of the paper’s due date. The paper will be worth 150 points, and will be graded on a 10% scale as follows:

150-136 = A / 135-121 = B / 120-106 = C / 105-91 = D / 90 and below = F

#### Late Paper Policy:

The paper is due in class on the due date. The late paper policy is as follows: Late papers will be penalized one full letter grade. You have one week from the due date to turn in a late paper. If it is not turned in within one week of the due date, you will receive "0" (zero) points for that paper.

#### Writing-Enhanced Credit:

This course is designated writing-enhanced, a “W” course. According to SHSU, you must take at least six courses that carry the designation writing-enhanced. The official definition of a writing-enhanced course is one in which 50% or more of the grade is based on written assignments.

#### Final Exam:

There will be two sections to the final exam. Each section will be graded separately. The first will be an objective section, similar in form to the mid-term exam, and will cover material from the mid-term to the end of the semester, material which comes out of readings, lectures, and discussions; it will be worth 100 points, and will be graded on the same 10% scale as the mid-term. The second section of the final exam will be an in-class, open-book essay on at least two works we will have read this semester, works other than the works you wrote on for your paper; this essay section will be worth 100 points, and will be graded on the same 10% scale as the mid-term. If you miss the final exam as a result of an absence, a make-up will be considered only with verifiable justification according to the “Attendance and Lateness Policies” section above. There is no make-up for a final missed during an unexcused absence.

Course Grade:

Your course grade will be based on the following:

Paper	= 150 points (33% of your course grade)
Mid-Term Exam	= 100 points (22% of your course grade)
Final Exam, Objective Section	= 100 points (22% of your course grade)
Final Exam, Essay Section	= 100 points (22% of your course grade)
Semester point total	= 450 points

Your course grade will be determined according to a 10% grade scale as follows:

450-406	= A
405-361	= B
360-316	= C
315-271	= D
270 and below	= F

There will be no extra credit offered in this course.

Important Dates:

Mid-Term Exam	– Thursday 12 October
Paper	– Thursday 16 November
Final Exam	– Thursday 7 December, 8:30-10:30

The following are the primary learning outcomes of the course:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the literary genres represented in the texts we will read.
2. Analyze both implicit and explicit themes in texts.
3. Interpret both literal and figurative meanings in texts.
4. Identify and use the conventions associated with what is called standard English, and strengthen writing skills.

Classroom Rules of Conduct:

1. Do not work on or read non-course materials (materials not related to English 4399) during this class. Do not begin putting your books away until the instructor indicates that class is over.
2. Lap tops are not permitted in this class. Turn off and put away all cell phones and electronic devices. Students may not have food, including snacks, during class. Students are prohibited from using tobacco products, making offensive remarks, reading newspapers, sleeping, talking at inappropriate times, wearing inappropriate clothing, or engaging in any other form of distraction.
3. Students will refrain from behavior in the classroom that intentionally or unintentionally disrupts the learning process and, thus, impedes the mission of the University. If you engage in disruptive or otherwise inappropriate behavior in the

classroom, I will ask you to leave the room. Continued behavior of this sort will result in dismissal from the class and referral to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action.

The University Code of Student Conduct and Discipline can be found at the following link: <<https://netreg.shsu.edu/mirror/codeofconduct.html>>

Instructor Evaluations:

You will be asked to complete a course/instructor evaluation form toward the end of the semester.

The following policy statements can be found at [www.shsu.edu/syllabus](http://www.shsu.edu/syllabus):

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Policy Statement

Academic Dishonesty

Religious Holidays

Visitors in the Classroom

English 4399: Children's Literature

Semester Schedule

I will give you specific reading assignments and page numbers in advance.

**August**

Th. / 24 first day of instruction

Th. / 31 Fairy Tales

**September**

Th. / 7 Classic Myths, Legends

Th. / 14 Fantasy

Th. / 21 Adventure Stories

Th. / 28 Domestic Fiction

**October**

Th. / 5 Fantasy

Th. / 12 Fantasy / **Mid-Term Exam**

Th. / 19 Verse / Picture Books

Th. / 26 Picture Books

**November**

Th. / 2 Verse / Plays

Th. / 9 Fantasy

Th. / 16 Science Fiction / **Paper Due**

Th. / 23 **Thanksgiving Recess**

Th. / 30 Little Red Riding Hood / School Stories / last day of instruction

**December**

Th. / 7            **Final Exam, 8:30-10:30 p.m.**

English 4399: Children's Literature            Reading Schedule (through the mid-term)

Page numbers refer to *The Norton Anthology of Children's Literature*

**August**

Th. / 24            First day of instruction. Organizational meeting. Background on the development of children's literature

Photocopies of the following:

- Charles Perrault, "Little Red Riding Hood," pp. 342-344
- The Brothers Grimm, "Little Red Cap," 345-347
- Anonymous, "The Little Red Riding Hood" (photocopy)
- Samuel Croxall, "The Fox without a Tail," pp. 394-395, "The Fox and the Crow," pp. 395-396
- William Godwin, "The Dog in the Manger," pp. 397-398, "The Ass in the Lion's Skin," pp. 398-399
- Fables from Aesop (photocopies)

Th. / 31            Fairy Tales, Introduction, pp. 175-186

Read the following:

- Charles Perrault, Introduction, pp. 185-186  
    "The Master Cat: or, Puss in Boots," pp. 186-189
- Jeanne-Marie Leprince Beaumont, Introduction, p. 199  
    "Beauty and the Beast," pp. 200-208
- The Brothers Grimm, Introduction, pp. 209-209  
    "Hansel and Gretel," pp. 210-214
- Hans Christian Andersen, Introduction, pp. 214-215  
    "The Nightingale," pp. 215-221
- Oscar Wilde, Introduction, pp. 257-258  
    "The Happy Prince," pp. 258-263

- Kenneth Grahame, Introduction, pp. 263-264  
     "The Reluctant Dragon," pp. 264-280
- Jane Yolen, Introduction, pp. 324-325  
     "The Lady and the Merman," pp. 325-327

## September

- Th. / 7      Classic Myths, Introduction, pp. 419-422  
 Read the following:
- William Godwin, Introduction, p. 423  
     "The Minotaur," pp. 423-424
  - Nathaniel Hawthorne, Introduction, pp. 424-425  
     "The Minotaur," pp. 425-432
  - Charles Kingsley, Introduction, p. 433  
     "How Theseus Slew the Minotaur," pp. 434-436
- Legends, Introduction, pp. 445-452  
 Read the following:
- History of Robin Hood*, pp. 461-468
  - Howard Pyle, Introduction, pp. 468-469  
     "Robin Hood and Little John," pp. 469-473
  - Roger Lancelyn Green, Introduction, p. 474  
     "Sir Gawain and the Green Knight," 474-484
- Th. / 14      Fantasy, Introduction, pp. 551-558  
 Read the following:
- Lloyd Alexander, Introduction, p. 795  
     *The Book of Three*, pp. 796-875
- Th. / 21      Adventure Stories, Introduction, pp. 1623-1632  
 Read the following:
- Daniel Defoe, Introduction, p. 1633  
     *Robinson Crusoe*, pp. 1634-1643
  - A.A. Milne, Introduction, p. 1658  
     "Christopher Robin," pp. 1659-1665
  - E.L. Konigsburg, Introduction, pp. 1745-1746  
     *From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler*, pp.  
 1746-      1804
- Th. / 28      Domestic Fiction, Introduction, pp. 2067-2079  
 Read the following:
- Louisa May Alcott, Introduction, pp. 2169-2170  
     "Psyche's Art," pp. 2170-2184
  - Frances Hodgson Burnett, Introduction, pp. 2184-2185  
     "Editha's Burglar," pp. 2186-2195

--L.M. Montgomery, Introduction, pp. 2196-2197  
"Each in His Own Tongue," pp. 2197-2210

## October

Th. / 5 Fantasy  
Read the following:  
--Ruth Park, Introduction, p. 699  
*Playing Beatie Bow*, pp. 700-794

Th. / 12 Fantasy  
Read the following:  
--L. Frank Baum, Introduction, pp. 582-583  
"The Capture of Father Time," pp. 584-589  
--Catherine Sinclair, Introduction, p. 559  
from *Holiday House*, pp. 560-567

**Mid-Term Exam** (given during the second half of the class session)

English 4399: Children's Literature Reading Schedule (to semester's end)

Page numbers refer to *The Norton Anthology of Children's Literature*

## October

Th. / 19 Poetry:  
Edward Lear  
Read the poems on pp. 1154-1157

Lewis Carroll  
Read the poems on pp. 1157-1159

Robert Louis Stevenson, *A Child's Garden of Verses*  
Read the poems on pp. 1181-1201

Th. / 26 Picture Books, Introduction, pp. 1051-1059  
Look at the following sections:  
--black & white illustrations, pp. 1060-1097  
--color plates, C1-C32

## November

Th. / 2 Verse Selections:  
*Lullabies and Baby Songs*, Introduction, p. 1132  
--Read the poems on pp. 1133-1138

Nursery Verse, Introduction, p. 1138  
--Read the poems on pp. 1139-1147

Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star, Introduction, pp. 1149-1150  
--Read the poems on pp. 1150-1151

Plays, Introduction, pp. 1293-1299  
Read the following:  
--J.M. Barrie, Introduction, pp. 1300-1301  
*Peter Pan*, pp. 1301-1356

Th. / 9 Fantasy  
Read the following:  
Edith Nesbit, Introduction, pp. 590-591  
--*The Phoenix and the Carpet*, pp. 591-699

Th. / 16 **Paper Due**  
Science Fiction, Introduction, pp. 897-904  
Read the following:  
--H.G. Wells, Introduction, pp. 905-906  
"The Stolen Body," pp. 906-915  
--Vonda N. McIntyre, Introduction, p. 1025  
"Of Mist, and Grass, and Sand," pp. 1025-1038  
--Craig Kee Strete, Introduction, pp. 1039  
"The Bleeding Man," pp. 1039-1050

Th. / 23 **Thanksgiving Recess**

Th. / 30 Read Texts and Contexts: Little Red Riding Hood, pp. 338-342  
--Read all the Little Red Riding Hood stories on pp. 348-386

School Stories, Introduction, pp. 1805-1816  
Read the following:  
--*The Governess*, Sarah Fielding  
Introduction, p. 1817  
Text, pp. 1818-1833

--last day of class

**December**

Th. / 7 **Final Exam, 8:30-10:30 p.m.**



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