

## Department of English &amp; Writing Studies

**Children's Literature**  
**English 2033E (001)**  
Intersession 2018

**Instructor:** Dr. Gabrielle Ceraldi  
AHB 2G20  
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**Office Hours:** T., Th. 1:30-2:30 or by  
appointment

**Course Date/Time:** M-F 11:00 am-1:30 pm

**Course Location:** Physics & Astronomy  
Building 34

**Antirequisite(s):** English 2730F/G (King's).

**Prerequisite(s):** Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Schedule of Classes

May 14	Introduction to the Course
May 15	<b>Fairy Tales and Nursery Rhymes</b> Traditional Fairy Tales, <i>Folk and Fairy Tales</i> (see list on last page)
May 16	Revisionist Fairy Tales, <i>Folk and Fairy Tales</i> (see list on last page)
May 17	Robert Munsch, <i>The Paper Bag Princess</i> Nursery Rhymes (coursepack) Dennis Lee, <i>Alligator Pie</i> Cautionary tales (coursepack)
May 18	C.S. Lewis, <i>The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe</i>
May 21	<b>Victoria Day</b> (no class)
May 22	<b>Nonsense</b> Edward Lear, <i>Nonsense Poems</i> (coursepack)
May 23	Lewis Carroll, <i>Alice's Adventures in Wonderland</i> and <i>Through the Looking-Glass</i>
May 24	<b>Identity</b> L. Frank Baum, <i>The Wizard of Oz</i>
May 25	Suzanne Collins, <i>The Hunger Games</i>
May 23	<b>Adventure</b> Robert Louis Stevenson, <i>Treasure Island</i>
May 29	Beatrix Potter, <i>The Tale of Peter Rabbit</i> J.M. Barrie, <i>Peter Pan</i>
May 30	John Boyne, <i>The Boy in the Striped Pajamas</i>
May 31	<i>The Boy in the Striped Pajamas</i> (film viewing and discussion)
June 1	Comparative Essays – Writing Workshop

June 4	<b>The Domestic Novel</b> Louisa May Alcott, <i>Little Women</i>
June 5	<i>Little Women</i> (film viewing and discussion)
June 6	Laura Ingalls Wilder, <i>Little House on the Prairie</i>
June 7	L.M. Montgomery, <i>Anne of Green Gables</i>
June 8	Frances Hodgson Burnett, <i>The Secret Garden</i>
June 11	<b>Exceptional Children</b> Louise Fitzhugh, <i>Harriet the Spy</i>
June 12	<i>Harriet the Spy</i> (film viewing and discussion)
June 13	Lois Lowry, <i>The Giver</i>
June 14	Essay Draft Workshop/Exam Format
June 15	Roald Dahl, <i>Matilda</i>
June 18	<b>Fantasy</b> J.K. Rowling, <i>Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone</i>
June 19	E.B. White, <i>Charlotte's Web</i>
June 20	Neil Gaiman, <i>Coraline</i>
June 21	review
June 22	(overflow)

**Learning Objectives:**

By the end of the course, the successful student will be able to:

- Place individual texts in their context within the historical development of children's literature;
- Recognize and understand the features of genres such as the fairy tale, the cautionary tale, nonsense, adventure, domestic fiction, and fantasy;
- Display a knowledge of several classic children's novels, as well as more recent contributions to the genre;
- Analyze texts employing the skills of literary analysis, considering features such as narrative technique, symbolism, rhyme and rhythm, layout and illustrations, etc.;
- Understand the political, religious, moral, and philosophical underpinnings of the books on the course;
- Communicate ideas effectively, both through speech (in class discussions) and in writing (through persuasive essays);
- Offer independent insights, beyond those outlined in class;
- Develop a specific, focused argument and support it with textual evidence.

Methods of Evaluation

Essay #1 (1250 words, due May 25)	15%
Film Discussions (3 x 250 words)	10%
Essay #2 (3000 words, due June 15)	30%
Participation	10%
Final Exam	35%

**NOTE:** As in all courses in the Department of English and Writing Studies, students must pass BOTH the term work and the final examination in order to pass the course.

**General Information:**

1. Regular attendance at lectures is essential. Absenteeism can result in debarment from writing the final examination, which in the Department of English and Writing Studies results in failure of the course.
2. Essays are due on the dates specified above, but each student will be allowed a total of FIVE grace days to be used at his/her discretion. Two percent per day (including weekends) will be deducted from late essays once the 5 grace days have been used up. No paper will be accepted later than two weeks after the due date.
3. All essays should be double-spaced and typewritten or printed in a standard font. Please follow MLA format (see attached guidelines). Essays should be handed in during class or dropped off in the Department of English Essay Drop-Off Boxes (located in the hall across from AHB 2G02). Do not leave essays under office doors.
4. Film Discussions: The day after we watch a film, students are required to hand in a 250-word discussion of a single change that was made in the translation from text to film, analyzing its impact on the meaning of the story. If time permits, there will be an opportunity to brainstorm ideas with other students after we have finished watching the film as a preparation for this assignment.
5. The Participation Grade will reflect your presence in class and your lively participation in discussions.
6. All grades, once assigned and/or posted, are final. While formal appeal processes do exist in the Department of English and Writing Studies, grades will not be changed after the fact in response to emailed requests and/or GPA requirements, nor will the weighting of assignments be altered for individual students.

Accommodation

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department. Documentation shall be submitted, as soon as possible, to the Office of the Dean of the student's Faculty of registration, together with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested. The UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness and further information regarding this policy can be found at [http://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/accommodation\\_medical.pdf](http://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf).

**Downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC):**

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf)

Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

**Plagiarism:**

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence.

**Plagiarism Checking:**

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com <http://www.turnitin.com>.

All instances of plagiarism will be reported to the Chair of Undergraduate Studies. Proven cases of plagiarism will result in a grade of zero for the assignment. Subsequent offences will result in failure for the course.

Support Services

Registrarial Services <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca>

Student Support Services <https://student.uwo.ca/psp/heprdweb/?cmd=login>

Services provided by the USC <http://westernusc.ca/services/>

Student Development Centre <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/>

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to MentalHealth@Western:  
<http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

**Grading Rubric:**

Thesis	Excellent Good Satisfactory Poor Inadequate	Forceful, fresh and challenging Clear development of a specific thesis Reasonably clear thesis Unclear, overgeneral
Argument (ideas)	Excellent Good Satisfactory Poor Inadequate	Original, analytical, persuasive, depth of insight Analytical, persuasive, with some originality and depth More descriptive than analytical, not fully persuasive Plot summary or lengthy paraphrase, general observations
Organization	Excellent Good Satisfactory Poor Inadequate	Paragraphs focus on clearly articulated, meaningful topics Paragraphs support thesis adequately Most paragraphs support thesis; some problems with coherent paragraphing Significant problems with paragraphing
Use of Sources (quotations)	Excellent Good Satisfactory Poor Inadequate	Detailed engagement with text, seamless integration, proper documentation Adequately detailed reference to text, proper documentation Effort to support points with reference to text and proper documentation Overgeneralization with inadequate support, little effort at documentation
Style	Excellent Good Satisfactory Poor Inadequate	Graceful, rhetorically impressive, few if any errors Clear writing style, errors relatively few and minor Some problems with clarity, grammar, punctuation, or wordiness Errors serious enough to interfere with understanding

A+	Outstanding	90+	C	Satisfactory	60-69
A	Excellent	80-89	D	Poor	50-59
B	Good	70-79	F	Inadequate across several areas	

## Sample of MLA Format

Surname 1

Your Name

Dr. Gabrielle Ceraldi

English 2033E

15 November 2011

Moral Ambiguity in R. L. Stevenson's *Treasure Island*  
and Emma Donohue's "The Tale of the Handkerchief"

Your title should indicate your topic and the works you will be discussing.

Titles of books should be *italicized*. Titles of short poems, articles, and short stories (including fairy tales) should be put in quotation marks.

Introduce quotations in your own words, identifying the speaker and context: i.e. Bettelheim argues that "The fairy tale ... confronts the child squarely with the basic human predicaments" (328). Use ellipses to indicate where you have omitted material. If you are using an online version of a novel which has no page numbers, you may use chapter numbers instead (ch. 13). If the quotation is longer than four lines, do not use quotation marks; instead, indent the passage ten spaces from the left and continue to double space. i.e. MacDonald uses Darwin's theory of evolution to explain the goblins' origin:

Those who had caught sight of them said that they had greatly altered  
in the course of generations ... both in face and form. (ch. 1)

Do not include the author's name in the parenthetical reference if the identity of the author is already clear from the context. List all the works you have referred to in a Works Cited list at the end of your paper.

### Works Cited

Bettelheim, Bruno. "The Struggle for Meaning." *Folk and Fairy Tales*. Ed. Martin

Hallett and Barbara Karasek. 4th ed. Broadview, 2009. 323-35.

MacDonald, George. *The Princess and the Goblin*. *Page by Page Books*. Accessed

11 Oct. 2011. [http://www.pagebypagebooks.com/George\\_MacDonald/](http://www.pagebypagebooks.com/George_MacDonald/)

[The\\_Princess\\_and\\_the\\_Goblin/](http://www.pagebypagebooks.com/George_MacDonald/The_Princess_and_the_Goblin/).

### **Traditional Fairy Tales**

- "The Story of Grandmother," Paul Delarue  
"Little Red Riding Hood," Charles Perrault  
"Little Red Cap," Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm  
"The Chinese Red Riding Hoods," Isabelle C. Chang  
"Sun, Moon, and Talia," Giambattista Basile  
"The Sleeping Beauty in the Wood," Charles Perrault  
"Brier Rose," Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm  
"Cinderella: Or the Glass Slipper," Charles Perrault  
"Ashputtle," Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm (coursepack)  
"Hansel and Gretel," Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm  
"Snow White," Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm  
"Rapunzel," Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm  
"Jack and the Beanstalk," Joseph Jacobs  
"Beauty and the Beast," Madame Leprince de Beaumont  
"The Frog King, or Iron Heinrich," Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm  
"The Brave Little Tailor," Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm  
"Molly Whuppie," Joseph Jacobs  
"Puss in Boots," Charles Perrault  
"Bluebeard," Charles Perrault  
"Rumpelstiltskin," Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm  
"The Goose Girl," Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm
- "The Struggle for Meaning," Bruno Bettelheim  
"Feminism and Fairy Tales," Karen Rowe

### **Revisionist Fairy Tales**

- The Paper Bag Princess*, Robert Munsch  
The Merseyside Snow White (coursepack)  
"The Wicked Stepmother's Lament," Sara Maitland  
"The Tale of the Handkerchief," Emma Donoghue  
"The Company of Wolves," Angela Carter