Department of English & Writing Studies

Children’s Literature
English 2033E (001)
Fall/Winter 2019-20

Instructor: Dr. Gabrielle Ceraldi
UC 4431
gceraldi@uwo.ca

Office Hours: T/Th. 2:00-3:00 or by appointment

Course Location: Middlesex College 105B

Antirequisites: English 2730F/G (King’s)

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 oral presentations) 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 (1500 words, due Oct. 29) 15%
Film Discussions (2 x 250 words) 10%
Test (Jan. 28) 10%
Essay #2 (3000 words, due Mar. 12) 25%
Attendance and Participation 10%
Final Exam 30%

Please note: The department of English & Writing Studies does not release final grades. All undergraduate grade reports will be available online from the Office of the Registrar.

Students are fully responsible for looking at and being familiar with the information posted on the department website at https://www.uwo.ca/english/undergraduate/Student%20Information.html.
General Information:
1. Regular attendance at lectures is essential. A verbal or emailed explanation is sufficient for a class missed due to emergency or illness; for longer legitimate absences (a week or more), students should see the academic counsellor in their dean’s office to arrange accommodation in order to avoid penalty.
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 three weeks after the due date.
3. All essays should be double-spaced and printed in a standard font such as 12-pt Times Roman. 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 (across from UC 2431). No essay will be accepted beyond three weeks after the due date or after the last day of classes (April 3). Email is not an accepted method of submission; essays must be submitted as hard copies.
4. The Participation Grade will reflect your presence in class and your lively participation in discussions.
5. 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.

Traditional Fairy Tales
“The Story of Grandmother,” Paul Delarue
“Little Red Riding Hood,” Charles Perrault
“Little Red Cap,” Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm
“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
“Shypittle,” Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm
“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,” 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 (coursepack)

Revisionist Fairy Tales
The Paper Bag Princess, Robert Munsch
“The Tale of the Handkerchief,” Emma Donoghue (coursepack)
“The Company of Wolves,” Angela Carter
“The Wicked Stepmother’s Lament,” Sara Maitland
# Grading Rubric:

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Excellent</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Satisfactory</th>
<th>Poor</th>
<th>Inadequate</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thesis</strong></td>
<td>Forceful, fresh and challenging</td>
<td>Clear development of a specific thesis</td>
<td>Reasonably clear thesis</td>
<td>Unclear, overgeneral</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Argument (ideas)</strong></td>
<td>Original, analytical, persuasive, depth of insight</td>
<td>Analytical, persuasive, with some originality and depth</td>
<td>More descriptive than analytical, not fully persuasive</td>
<td>Plot summary or lengthy paraphrase, general observations</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Organization</strong></td>
<td>Paragraphs focus on clearly articulated, meaningful topics</td>
<td>Paragraphs support thesis adequately</td>
<td>Most paragraphs support thesis; some problems with coherent paragraphing</td>
<td>Significant problems with paragraphing</td>
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<td><strong>Use of Sources</strong></td>
<td>Detailed engagement with text, seamless integration, proper documentation</td>
<td>Adequately detailed reference to text, proper documentation</td>
<td>Effort to support points with reference to text and proper documentation</td>
<td>Overgeneralization with inadequate support, little effort at documentation</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Style</strong></td>
<td>Graceful, rhetorically impressive, few if any errors</td>
<td>Clear writing style, errors relatively few and minor</td>
<td>Some problems with clarity, grammar, punctuation, or wordiness</td>
<td>Errors serious enough to interfere with understanding</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Score Range</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>Outstanding</td>
<td>90+</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>80-89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>70-79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Satisfactory</td>
<td>60-69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>50-59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Inadequate across several areas</td>
<td>0-59</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sample of MLA Format:

Surname 1

Your Name
Dr. Gabrielle Ceraldi (OR T.A.’s name)
English 2033E
15 November 2011

Moral Ambiguity in R. L. Stevenson’s *Treasure Island* and Emma Donoghue’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. EXAMPLE: 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 and no wonder, seeing they lived away from the sun, in cold and wet and dark places. They were now, not ordinarily ugly, but either absolutely hideous, or ludicrously grotesque both in face and form. (ch. 1)

List all sources used at the end of the paper.

Works Cited


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.

Downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC):
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

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.
Timetable

Sept. 5  Introduction to the Course

Fairy Tales

Sept. 10-12  Traditional Fairy Tales, Folk and Fairy Tales (see list on p. 5)


Revisionist Fairy Tales, Folk and Fairy Tales (see list on p. 5)

Moralistic Literature

Sept. 24-26  Louisa May Alcott, Little Women

Oct. 1  Cautionary Tales (coursepack)

Nonsense Literature

Oct. 3  Nursery Rhymes (coursepack); Dennis Lee, Alligator Pie

Oct. 8-10  Edward Lear, Nonsense Poems and Stories (coursepack)

Oct. 15-17  Lewis Carroll, Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland and Through the Looking Glass

Oct. 22-24  Roald Dahl, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory

Girls and Boys

Oct. 29-31  Frances Hodgson Burnett, The Secret Garden

Essay #1 Due Oct. 29

Nov. 5-7  FALL READING WEEK (no class)

Nov. 12  Dr. Seuss, The Cat in the Hat

Nov. 14-19  John Boyne, The Boy in the Striped Pajamas

Nov. 21  film: The Boy in the Striped Pajamas (discussion due Nov. 28)

Nov. 26-28  L. M. Montgomery, Anne of Green Gables

Dec. 3-5  J.K. Rowling, Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone

Adventure

Jan. 7-9  Robert Louis Stevenson, Treasure Island

Jan. 14-16  Beatrix Potter, The Tale of Peter Rabbit; J.M. Barrie, Peter Pan

Realism

Jan. 21-23  Laura Ingalls Wilder, Little House on the Prairie

Jan. 28  TEST

Jan. 30-Feb. 4  Louise Fitzhugh, Harriet the Spy

Feb. 6  film: Harriet the Spy (discussion due Feb. 13)

Feb. 11  Picture Books

Feb. 13  Workshop: Writing Comparative Essays

Feb. 18-20  SPRING READING WEEK (no classes)

Fantasy

Feb. 25-27  George MacDonald, The Princess and the Goblin

Mar. 3-5  C.S. Lewis, The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe

Mar. 10-12  L. Frank Baum, The Wizard of Oz

ESSAY #2 Due Mar. 12

Dystopia

Mar. 17  exam format

Mar. 19  Lois Lowry, The Giver

Mar. 24-26  Suzanne Collins, The Hunger Games

Review

Mar. 31-Apr. 2  Neil Gaiman, Coraline/review