

ENGL 3401: Children's Literature Standard Section plus HONORS EMBEDDED

Catalogue Description:

Study of children's literature through reading, discussion, and writing about history, characteristics, and authors of its major genres. PREREQUISITE: ENGL 1010, 1020, 2201 or 2202 with a "C-" or better, or their equivalent.

3.000 Credit hours

Offered by Dr. Cohoon

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PT Hall 110

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Fall 2022 Virtual Office hours MW 10:00-11:30, and by appointment (email to set up)

This course is a survey of children's literature. You will be introduced to authors and texts that have defined the field of children's literature. You will discuss children's books and write about how children's literature shapes and reflects cultural ideas about children and childhood. You will develop knowledge of children's books and children's authors and illustrators, and you will learn about the history of children's literature as well as contemporary issues in the field of children's literature and demonstrate this knowledge in discussions, exams and quizzes, presentations, and papers.

Course Goals

By the end of the course, successful participants will have done and be able to continue to do the following:

- Read multiple children's literature texts and respond to them in papers, projects, discussions, and quizzes and develop critical thinking skills by writing about and discussing children's literature.
- Demonstrate familiarity with a variety of approaches to children's literature and resources that will enhance the study of children's literature, including scholarly journals and book review journals by referring to these approaches and resources in papers, exams, and bibliographies.
- Identify features and express ideas about textual, visual, and design elements of picture books, storybooks, and illustrated chapter books by writing papers and responses, and developing presentations related to illustration and picturebooks.

- Recount key details of biographies of authors and illustrators of children's texts and/or key details of the context of children's texts, identify significant projects of authors and illustrators, and discuss how biographical, cultural, and historical contexts shape children's texts in papers, responses, and presentations and plan, create, and put into practice strategies for teaching and sharing children's literature by designing presentations, activities, and discussions about children's texts.
- Explore how children's literature and definitions of childhood are connected. Explore and critique how children's literature and definitions of childhood shape cultural ideas about children's cognitive, social, and emotional development by writing about and sharing ideas about children as readers and audiences for specific texts and by exploring how parents, librarians, educators, and other interested adults choose children's books for children.
- Identify and describe genres of children's literature and compare specific genres and forms and describe their intersecting features and characteristics.

Prerequisites and Corequisites

PREREQUISITE: ENGL 1010, 1020, and 2201 or 2202 with a "C-" or better, or their equivalent.

Course Topics by Module

- Introduction to Children's Literature and writing about literature
- Picturebooks, picturebook paper, writing about children's literature, and library research
- History of Children's Literature, library research, writing about children's literature, children's poetry
- Domestic and Adventure Fiction and Historical Fiction
- Fantasy and Realism, Writing about Children's Literature--drafting and revising
- Race and Ethnicity in Children's Literature, Nonfiction and Children's Literature, Conducting Research on Children's Literature, Writing About Children's Literature
- Fairy tales, Gender and Sexualities in Children's Literature, Censorship and Selection in Children's Literature, and Children's Literature and Popular Culture
- Exam review and exam

Specific Course Requirements

Requirements: Two researched papers (3 pages each; one presentation on an award-winning form, genre, or author, one poem presentation, one annotated bibliography that alphabetizes and compiles at least five of the library database sources found for

paper one and paper two, one exam, engaged participation (reading quizzes, writing assignments, significant contributions to class discussions and presentations, demonstrated engagement with the class through review of course materials, discussion posts, and presentations)

Textbooks, Supplementary Materials, Hardware and Software Requirements

Tentative List of Required Textbooks

Textbooks are available from the University Store at 901-678-2011, and online. Buy, rent, or borrow these required books.

Reading Children's Literature: A Critical Introduction. Eds. Carrie Hintz and Eric Tribunella

- Publisher: Broadview Press; 2 edition (March 28, 2019)
- Language: English
- ISBN-10: 155481443X
- ISBN-13: 978-1554814435

Picture This: How Pictures Work Molly Bang ISBN 978158717-030-0

Required for reading, recommended for buying

Anne of Green Gables (excerpts)

- Publisher: Signet (May 6, 2003)
- Language: English
- ISBN-10: 0451528824
- ISBN-13: 978-0451528827

Charlotte's Web (excerpts)

- Publisher: HarperCollins (1800)
- ASIN: B01070WUQ4

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland (excerpts)

- Paperback
- Publisher: Dover Publications (1994)
- ASIN: 0830128999

Other texts to be decided