

Course Abstract

If you need accommodations due to a disability, contact Disability Services in Edison Hall Room 100, 732.906.2546.

To foster a productive learning environment, the College requires that all students adhere to the Code of Student Conduct which is published in the college catalog and website.

Course ID and Name: ENG 212: Children's Literature

Department: English

Chairperson or Course Coordinator: Michael Nester

Office Location: RH236

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Prerequisites: ENG 121

Co-requisites:

Course Description: Children's literature from around the globe is read and discussed through some of the classic folktales, myths, fables, fantasies, and poems. Students read and study literature from diverse cultures and traditions, such as the European, African, Asian, Meso-American and Native-American. Students analyze, research, and write about the literature they read. The literary works are also studied from a variety of critical perspectives, including the literary, cultural, psychological, historical, religious, sociological, and anthropological. Attention is also given to the relevance of children's literature to contemporary educational theories and practice. It is strongly recommended that all degree students complete ENG 122 before registering for this course.

General Education Status:

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Lab Hours: 0

Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of the program or course, students will be able to:

1. Interpret and analyze literature and justify their responses orally and in writing.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the formal features of literary texts and a knowledge of contexts.
3. Demonstrate the ability to paraphrase, summarize, and respond to texts by composing, through a series of drafts, coherent, persuasive, developed, and grammatical essays; compose research papers demonstrating the ability to analyze, evaluate, and synthesize source materials and to cite this information correctly.
4. Demonstrate a familiarity with the history and scope of children's literature by studying folk literature, fable and fantasy, informational books, poetry,

illustrated books, and other types as assigned by the instructor; and understand the relationship which exists between literature written “specifically” for children and that written for adults.

5. Understand how to help children use and enjoy literature by making at least one class presentation—e.g., a poetry reading, a story-telling, a story dramatization—that is aimed specifically at a juvenile audience
6. Analyze works in the fields of theater and literature.
7. Discuss the importance of global perspectives and diverse peoples.

Course Content Areas:

1. **Research and writing:** Research essays based on primary and secondary sources and using most recent MLA documentation style. A midterm and final examination requiring the writing of essays that make close reference to the literature studied.
2. **Reading:** Classic myths, legends, folk tales, fairy tales and works by major writers of literature for children such as Andersen, Lewis, Barrie, Sendak, Van Allsburg, Viorst, Steig, and Weisner.
3. **Lecture/Discussion:**
 - a. Major literary and intellectual developments and trends in the history of children’s literature.
 - b. Themes, character types, motifs, archetypes and/or other basic concerns important to a basic but adequate understanding and appreciation of the literature under consideration.
 - c. Literary devices such as plot, theme, point of view, character development, tone, setting, and figurative language to the degree that each affects the literature in which it is found.