

Carleton University
Winter 2023
Institute of Interdisciplinary Studies

CHST 3204A/ENGL 3204 A: *Literary Representations of Childhood and Youth*

Prerequisites: third-year standing or permission of the department(s)

Preclusions: none

Tuesday / 2:35 pm – 5:25 pm

Location: *Please confirm location on Carleton Central*

Format: In-person

Instructor: Adam Barrows

Email: *adambarrows@cunet.carleton.ca*

Office: DT 1901

Phone: 613-520-2600 x 4093

Office Hours: Friday 1-4 pm

Important note:

For information on deadlines for withdrawal from courses, please consult the Academic Year section of the Undergraduate Calendar (<https://calendar.carleton.ca/academicyear/>).

Course description: In this course, we will examine the ways in which major English-language writers from four different continents have represented children and youth in creative literature. Poetry, short fiction, novels, graphic novels, and creative non-fiction will be included. Texts will be placed within their historical, cultural, and/or political contexts.

Learning Outcomes: Students will learn to: identify and discuss key themes and issues in the literary representation of children and youth; identify and discuss formal features of representative works of fiction by a range of English language writers; place works by English language writers within their historical, cultural, and political contexts.

Required Texts (all texts are available through Octopus Books: octopusbooks.ca/students):

Dahl, Roald. *Boy: Tales of Childhood*. Puffin Books, 2009.

Dangarembga, Tsitsi. *Nervous Conditions*. Ayebia Clark Publishing, 2004.

James, Henry. *The Turn of the Screw*. Oxford University Press, 2008.

Satrapi, Marjane. *Persepolis: The Story of a Childhood*. Pantheon, 2004.

Course calendar: (This schedule is subject to change at my discretion. Reading assignments should be completed BEFORE the date they are listed):

Jan 10 Introduction and Syllabus Overview

- Jan 17** Wordsworth, “We Are Seven,” “The Idiot Boy,” “My Heart Leaps Up,” “Ode: Intimations of Immortality from Recollections of Early Childhood” (Readings available on Brightspace)
- Jan 24** Blake, “Infant Joy” (from *Songs of Innocence*), “Infant Sorrow” (from *Songs of Experience*), “The Chimney Sweeper” (from *Songs of Innocence*), “The Chimney Sweeper” (from *Songs of Experience*) (Readings available on Brightspace)
Barrett Browning, “The Cry of the Children” (Reading available on Brightspace)
- Jan 31** James, *The Turn of the Screw* (up to and including section XII)
- Feb 7** James, *The Turn of the Screw* (sections XIII to XXIV)
- Feb 14** **Midterm Examination (Due on CULearn by 11:25 am)**
- Feb 21** BREAK
- Feb 28** Joyce, “An Encounter” (Reading available on Brightspace)
Desai, “Games at Twilight” (Reading available on Brightspace)
- Mar 7** Dangarembga, *Nervous Conditions* (chapters 1-5)
- Mar 14** Dangarembga, *Nervous Conditions* (chapters 6-10)
- Mar 21** Satrapi, *Persepolis* (chapters 1-10)
- Mar 28** Satrapi, *Persepolis* (chapters 11-19)
Optional Essay Due
- Apr 4** Dahl, *Boy: Tales of Childhood*
- Apr 11** Final Exam Review

Evaluation:

Attendance: 10%

Midterm Examination 40%

Final Examination: 50%

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

Attendance: You are expected to attend every course on time and to bring a copy of the required text(s).

Midterm Examination: You will be asked to choose **three out of five** excerpts from the required readings and do the following for each of the three passages you choose: identify the title, author and time period of the work from which the passage has been excerpted; discuss the relationship of the passage to the larger work from which it has been excerpted; discuss the major themes and significant features of the text; as appropriate, situate the text within its larger historical, cultural, political, and/or literary historical contexts, and; meaningfully relate the passage to other works we have studied. The midterm examination will cover course material from January 17 to February 7 (the poetry and *The Turn of the Screw*).

Final Examination: The final formally scheduled examination will be the same format as the midterm examination except that you will choose **four out of six** excerpts. It is non-cumulative and will cover course material from February 28 to April 4 (James Joyce/Anita Desai to Roald Dahl).

Optional Essay: You have the option of submitting by **March 28** (on Brightspace by 11:59 pm) a 1,500 to 2,000 word essay (around six double-spaced pages) on a writer of your choice not represented on the syllabus whose work engages with the literary representation of childhood and/or youth. You must analyze at least one key text by that author and situate the work within its historical, cultural and/or political contexts. You must also productively relate it to at least two works from the syllabus. The essays will be evaluated on the originality and effectiveness of your literary analysis, logic, organization, and mechanics. The paper will be worth **20%** and can **replace your lowest 20% score on either the midterm or final examination (whichever is lower)**. In the unlikely event that your grade for the essay would lower your final grade for the course, the essay will not affect your final grade calculation (it can only increase your final grade, not decrease it).

PLAGIARISM

The University Academic Integrity Policy defines plagiarism as “presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.” This includes reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source. Examples of sources from which the ideas, expressions of ideas or works of others may be drawn from include but are not limited to: books, articles, papers, literary compositions and phrases, performance compositions, chemical compounds, artworks, laboratory reports, research results, calculations and the results of calculations, diagrams, constructions, computer reports, computer code/software, material on the internet and/or conversations.

Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:

- any submission prepared in whole or in part, by someone else;

- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, paraphrased material, algorithms, formulae, scientific or mathematical concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another's data or research findings without appropriate acknowledgement;
- submitting a computer program developed in whole or in part by someone else, with or without modifications, as one's own; and
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another's work and/or failing to use quotations marks.

Plagiarism is a serious offence that cannot be resolved directly by the course's instructor. The Associate Dean of the Faculty conducts a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They can include a final grade of "F" for the course.

Statement on Student Mental Health

As a University student you may experience a range of mental health challenges that significantly impact your academic success and overall well-being. If you need help, please speak to someone. There are numerous resources available both on- and off-campus to support you. Here is a list that may be helpful:

Emergency Resources (on and off campus): <https://carleton.ca/health/emergencies-and-crisis/emergency-numbers/>

Carleton Resources:

- Mental Health and Wellbeing: <https://carleton.ca/wellness/>
- Health & Counselling Services: <https://carleton.ca/health/>
- Paul Menton Centre: <https://carleton.ca/pmc/>
- Academic Advising Centre (AAC): <https://carleton.ca/academicadvising/>
- Centre for Student Academic Support (CSAS): <https://carleton.ca/csas/>
- Equity & Inclusivity Communities: <https://carleton.ca/equity/>

Off Campus Resources:

- Distress Centre of Ottawa and Region: (613) 238-3311 or TEXT: 343-306-5550, <https://www.dcottawa.on.ca/>
- Mental Health Crisis Service: (613) 722-6914, 1-866-996-0991, <http://www.crisisline.ca/>
- Empower Me: 1-844-741-6389, <https://students.carleton.ca/services/empower-me-counselling-services/>
- Good2Talk: 1-866-925-5454, <https://good2talk.ca/>
- The Walk-In Counselling Clinic: <https://walkincounselling.com>

Statement on Pandemic Measures

It is important to remember that COVID is still present in Ottawa. The situation can change at any time and the risks of new variants and outbreaks are very real. There are [a number of actions you can take](#) to lower your risk and the risk you pose to those around you including being

vaccinated, wearing a mask, staying home when you're sick, washing your hands and maintaining proper respiratory and cough etiquette.

Feeling sick? Remaining vigilant and not attending work or school when sick or with symptoms is critically important. If you feel ill or exhibit COVID-19 symptoms do not come to class or campus. If you feel ill or exhibit symptoms while on campus or in class, please leave campus immediately. In all situations, you should follow Carleton's [symptom reporting protocols](#).

Masks: Masks are no longer mandatory in university buildings and facilities. However, we continue to recommend masking when indoors, particularly if physical distancing cannot be maintained. We are aware that personal preferences regarding optional mask use will vary greatly, and we ask that we all show consideration and care for each other during this transition.

Vaccines: While proof of vaccination is no longer required to access campus or participate in in-person Carleton activities, it may become necessary for the University to bring back proof of vaccination requirements on short notice if the situation and public health advice changes. Students are strongly encouraged to get a full course of vaccination, including booster doses as soon as they are eligible and submit their booster dose information in [cuScreen](#) as soon as possible. Please note that Carleton cannot guarantee that it will be able to offer virtual or hybrid learning options for those who are unable to attend the campus.

All members of the Carleton community are required to follow requirements and guidelines regarding health and safety which may change from time to time. For the most recent information about Carleton's COVID-19 response and health and safety requirements please see the [University's COVID-19 website](#) and review the [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#). Should you have additional questions after reviewing, please contact covidinfo@carleton.ca.

Requests for Academic Accommodations

Please include the following text, provided by Equity and Inclusive Communities, on all course outlines, and read it at the beginning of your first few classes to remind students. For details, see the [accommodations section](#) and the [Course Outline Information on Academic Accommodations](#).

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

Pregnancy: write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For accommodation regarding a formally scheduled final exam, you must complete the Pregnancy Accommodation Form ([click here](#)).

Religious obligation: write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details [click here](#).

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally scheduled exam (if applicable).

Survivors of Sexual Violence

As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working, and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and where survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: <https://carleton.ca/equity/sexual-assault-support-services>

Accommodation for Student Activities

Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation will be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. <https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf>