

Carleton University  
Winter 2019  
Department of English

**ENGL 2011A : Children's Literature**

**Precludes additional credit for ENGL 2006 (no longer offered).**  
**Prerequisite(s): second-year standing or permission of the department.**

**Tuesday, Thursday: 1:05-2:25**

**Location: Please confirm location on Carleton Central**

**Instructor: Sara Jamieson**

**Email: sara\_jamieson@carleton.ca**

**Office: Dunton Tower 1819**

**Phone: (613) 520-2600 ex. 2431**

**Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays 2-3, or by appointment**

**Course Description:** This course examines a variety of texts from around the world that, if not always expressly created for children, have come to be associated primarily with child readers. Through reading, discussing, and writing about a selection of texts produced from the seventeenth to the twenty-first centuries, as well as a selection of critical and theoretical works pertaining to children's literature, students will achieve the following objectives:

- develop a familiarity with some of the dominant generic codes of children's literature, including the fairy tale, the school story, the coming-of-age novel, the domestic novel, the animal story, the adventure story, the picture book, the graphic novel, and the fantasy narrative
- develop the close-reading skills necessary for the analysis and interpretation of literary texts
- think critically about the ideologies, politics, and historical and cultural contexts that shape each text's representation of the place of children in society and of the process of growing up
- develop an understanding of how literary texts revisit and rewrite earlier narratives, and the ability to interpret the significance of their similarities and differences

**Reading List: Most texts will be available at Haven Books, 43 Seneca Street (613-730-9888) unless otherwise indicated.**

Martin Hallett and Barabara Karasek, eds., *Folk and Fairy Tales: Concise Edition*

L.M. Montgomery, *Anne of Green Gables*

Jillian Tamaki and Mariko Tamaki, *This One Summer*

J.K. Rowling, *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*

Thomas King, *A Coyote Columbus Story*  
E.B. White, *Charlotte's Web*  
Marissa Meyer, *Cinder*  
Hayao Miyazaki dir., *Spirited Away* (film to be screened in class)

Recommended: *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, 8<sup>th</sup> edition

**Assignments and Evaluation:**

Midterm Test: 25% (Tuesday, February 26)  
Essay (6-8 pages): 35% (Tuesday, April 2)  
2 short Response Papers: 10% (Tuesday, February 5; Tuesday, March 19)  
Attendance and Class Contribution: 5%  
Final Exam: 25% (scheduled exam period)

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.

**Assignment Details:**

**Midterm Test:** This will take place in class and will test students' knowledge of all material covered up to that point. The format will be some combination of passage identification and short answer questions. There will be no essay component.

**Essay:** This assignment requires you to submit an analytical research essay six to eight pages in length. Topics will be supplied well in advance of the due date. The essay should have a thesis statement and develop a coherent argument about one or more of the works on the course, supported by secondary sources and by examples from the primary text(s). Essays will be evaluated for their content as well as for correct grammar, punctuation, and mechanics.

**Short Response Papers:** Two of these are to be completed over the course of the term. They each should be 3 pages in length (double spaced, 12-point font). They will require you to respond to a question/topic dealing with the assigned readings. Topics/questions will be issued well in advance of the due date. Correct punctuation and grammar are required; no point form allowed. These assignments are intended to demonstrate comprehension of the assigned readings, and to give me an opportunity to assess the strengths and weaknesses of your writing ability.

\*\*Essays and response papers should conform to MLA style; see recommended text *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, or visit <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/> for information on correct MLA format.

**Final Exam:** This will take place during the scheduled exam period and will test students' knowledge of all assigned readings. The format will be some combination of multiple choice, passage identification, short answer, and a brief essay.

### **Grading System:**

Assignments in this course will be graded using the letter grading system: A-, A, A+ (Excellent); B-, B, B+ (Good); C-, C, C+ (Satisfactory); D, D+ (Minimal pass); F (Failure). Percentage conversion: A+ (90-100%), A (85-89), A- (80-84), B+ (77-79), B (73-76), B- (70-72), C+ (67-69), C (63-66), C- (60-62), D+ (57-59), D (53-56), D- (50-52), F (0-49).

### **Expectations and Regulations:**

**Attendance and Class Contribution:** This portion of the grade will be based on your attendance record, evidence of having completed the assigned readings, active listening, and **appropriate** participation in class discussions. **Attendance is mandatory**; there will be a sign-in sheet for every class. Perfect attendance alone does not guarantee a perfect grade (5/5). **In my experience, students who attend classes regularly stand a far better chance of doing well in the course than those who do not. This is in part because the final exam will test you specifically on material that has been discussed in class.**

If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to find out what went on in your absence.

**Classroom courtesy:** The classroom should be a safe and respectful environment for all of us, and that includes me as the instructor. No cell phones, please. Laptops are to be used for note-taking only. Please refrain from checking social media or randomly surfing the web during class. This is discourteous to the instructor and distracting for your fellow students. In my experience, the students who spend most of every class giggling at something on a screen do not tend to do as well as those who are alert and engaged with what is actually going on!

Please stay for the duration of the class; if you must leave early, I would appreciate it if you would let me know beforehand.

For every class, you are expected to arrive having read the assigned readings, and to bring them with you. In the case of novels, yes, you are expected to have read the **WHOLE NOVEL** before the first class on it. As you read, note the elements you find interesting. Think about connections to other texts or to issues we have been discussing in class. Bring questions. Slow and attentive reading is going to improve your ability to participate in class and your ability to retain information when it comes to the exams.

**Submission of Assignments:** Assignments are due IN CLASS on the due date.

Alternatively, you may use the dropbox outside the English Department office (DT 1812). Use the dropbox at your own risk: if I don't find the paper in my mailbox, then as far as I am concerned, it has not been submitted. In the unlikely event that an assignment submitted to the dropbox does not reach me, you must be able to submit a copy to me as soon as this is brought to your attention. To be safe, it's a good idea to follow up with an e-mail when you submit something to the dropbox.

**Late Penalty:** The late penalty is 2% per day late, including weekends. Papers more than two weeks late will not be accepted without appropriate documentation.

**Bonus Marks:**

During the year, you will have the opportunity to earn bonus marks for attending literary events outside class time. Please provide proof of attendance (a ticket stub, a selfie etc.) and one mark will be added to your final grade for the course. These events include:

**Versefest: A World of Poetry in Ottawa, March 2019.** Attend ONE Versefest event and ONE mark will be added to your grade.

**Versefest events are FREE for Carleton students. Use your student card to purchase tickets online or at the door.**

**2018-19 Munro Beattie Lecture featuring Canadian writer David Chariandy (Thursday, January 31, Dominion Chalmers United Church, 7pm). Admission FREE.**

**PLAGIARISM**

The University Senate defines plagiarism as “*presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.*” This can include:

- 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;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in "substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs."

**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.**

More information on the university's Academic Integrity Policy can be found here: <https://carleton.ca/secretariat/wp-content/uploads/Academic-Integrity-Policy.pdf>

**Help with your writing:** The Centre for Student Academic Support provides one-on-one, assignment-specific writing advice, through drop-in or scheduled appointments of 40 minutes. Bring the assignment sheet and your outline or draft. For drop-in hours or to book an appointment, see <https://carleton.ca/csas/writing-services/>

**Learning support:** For workshops on academic reading, writing, note-taking, proofreading, exam preparation and other topics see <https://carleton.ca/csas/learning-support-workshops/>

### **Requests for 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 obligation**

Please contact your instructor 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, visit the Equity Services website: [carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf](https://carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf)

#### **Religious obligation**

Please contact your instructor 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, visit the Equity Services website: [carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf](https://carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf)

### **Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**

If you have a documented disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) at 613-520-6608 or [pmc@carleton.ca](mailto:pmc@carleton.ca) for a formal evaluation or contact your PMC coordinator to send your instructor your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term. You must also contact the PMC 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 your instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. [carleton.ca/pmc](https://carleton.ca/pmc)

### **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 its 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: [carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support](https://carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support)

## **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 must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Please contact your instructor 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>

## **Reading Schedule**

### **Week One:**

#### **Tuesday, January 8: Welcome and Introduction**

#### **Thursday, January 10: Folk and Fairy Tales: Little Red Riding Hood**

“The Story of Grandmother” by Paul Delarue

“Little Red Riding Hood” by Charles Perrault

“Little Red Cap” by Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm

“Wolf,” by Francesca Lia Block

(all readings in *Folk and Fairy Tales: Concise Edition*)

### **Week Two:**

#### **Tuesday, January 15: Folk and Fairy Tales: Sleeping Beauty**

“Sun, Moon, and Talia” by Giambattista Basile

“The Sleeping Beauty in the Wood” by Charles Perrault

“Briar Rose,” by Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm

“Sleeping Beauty and the Airplane” by Gabriel Garcia Marquez (posted on ARES)

(all readings, except Marquez, in *Folk and Fairy Tales: Concise Edition*)

#### **Thursday, January 17: Cinderella**

“Cinderella: Or the Little Glass Slipper” by Charles Perrault

“Vasilisa the Beautiful” by Aleksandr Afanas’ev

“Cap o’ Rushes” by Joseph Jacobs

“The Little Red Fish and the Clog of Gold” by Inea Bushnaq

(all readings in *Folk and Fairy Tales: Concise Edition*)

### **Week Three: Disney and the Fairy Tale**

#### **Tuesday, January 22:**

*Tangled* (film to be screened in class)

#### **Thursday, January 24: Disney continued**

*Tangled* continued

“Rapunzel” by Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm (in *Folk and Fairy Tales: Concise Edition*)

### **Week Four: The Domestic Novel**

#### **Tuesday, January 29:**

*Anne of Green Gables*

**Thursday, January 31:**

*Anne of Green Gables*

**Week Five: The Domestic Novel continued; The School Story**

**Tuesday, February 5: First Response Paper Due**

*Anne of Green Gables*

**Thursday, February 7:**

*Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*

**Week Six: The School Story, continued**

**Tuesday, February 12:**

*Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*

**Thursday, February 14:**

*Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*

☺ **READING WEEK: NO CLASSES** ☺

**Week Seven:**

**Tuesday, February 26: Midterm Test**

**Thursday, February 28: The Picture Book**

*A Coyote Columbus Story*

**Week Eight: The Graphic Novel**

**Tuesday, March 5:**

*This One Summer*

**Thursday, March 7:**

*This One Summer*

**Week Nine: Graphic Novels and Picture Books, continued**

**Tuesday, March 12:**

*This One Summer*

**Thursday, March 14: Young Adult Fantasy and Dystopia**

*Cinder*

**Week Ten: Young Adult Fantasy and Dystopia**

**Tuesday, March 19:**

**Second Response Paper due**

*Cinder*

**Thursday, March 21:**

*Cinder*

**Week Eleven: The Animal Story**

**Tuesday, March 26:**

*Charlotte's Web*

**Thursday, March 28:**

*Charlotte's Web*

**Week Twelve: Adventure and Fantasy on Screen**

**Tuesday, April 2: Research Essay Due**

*Spirited Away*

**Thursday, April 4:**

*Spirited Away*

**Week Thirteen: Wrap-Up**

**Tuesday, April 9: Exam Review**