

Fall/Winter 2018-2019

AP/EN 2174 3.0N (W)

20TH CENTURY CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

Course Director:

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Office: 330 Calumet College
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Office Hours: By Appointment Only

Delivery Format:

Fully Online

Time:

Online

Description:

This course focuses on children's literature from the 20th and 21st centuries. According to Peter Hunt, "The study of children's literature involves three elements – the literature, the children and the adult critics. The relationship between these is complex, partly because childhood and 'the child' are difficult to define, partly because adults need to 'construct' the child...and partly because the literature is assumed to be 'good for' children in some way." These three elements shape this course's exploration of possible ways of reading children's literature. In addition to the works of fiction, this course incorporates a variety of theoretical texts, which address such concerns as constructions of childhood, definitions of children's literature, and the issue of power and childhood. This selection of primary and secondary course readings enables our examination of children and young adult anxieties about selfhood, gender, class, sexual orientation, indigeneity and race. The serious issues that modern children's literature delves into — the struggle of identity, of class inequity, of racial oppression, of child exploitation, and of sexual awakening—depart fundamentally from literature pre-dating the twentieth century.

Category:

D

Historical Requirement:

N/A

Requirements:

Evaluations:
Online Discussion: Due January 25 : 15%
Quiz: Due February 8 : 15%
Essay: Due March 1 : 30%
Participation Papers: see course syllabus: 10%
Final Exam: TBA : 30%

Reading List:

Required Texts (Available at York University's bookstore):

Burnett, Frances Hodgson. *The Secret Garden* (HarperTrophy) (ISBN: 9780064401883) or <http://www.gutenberg.org/files/17396/17396-h/17396-h.htm>

Chainani, Somon. *The School for Good and Evil*. Harper Collins Publishers.

Collins, *The Hunger Games*. Scholastic Press

Dimaline, Cherie. *The Marrow Thieves*. ISBN 9781770864863

Fitzhugh, Louise. *Harriet the Spy*. Yearling. 0440416795

Keats, Ezra Jack. *The Snowy Day*. Puffin Books 9780140501827

Mckissack, Patricia. *The Dark Thirty: Southern Tales of the Supernatural*.

(Yearling)

Milne, A. A. *Winnie the Pooh*. Corner Puffin Books 0140361219

Milne, A. A. *The House at Pooh*. Corner Puffin Books 0140361227

Potter, Beatrix. *Peter Rabbit*. <https://www.gutenberg.org/files/14838/14838-h/14838-h.htm>

Richardson, Justin and Peter Parnell. *And Tango Makes Three*. Simon & Schuster Books 978-0689878459

Rowling, J. R. *The Philosopher's Stone*. (Bloomsbury)

Sendak, Maurice. *Where the Wild Things Are*. Harper Trophy 139780064431781

Stewart, Elizabeth *The Lynching of Louie Sam*. Annick Press 978-1554514380

Tamaki, Jillian. *Skim*. Groundwood Books 9780888999641

Tan, *Lost & Found*. 9780545229241

Required PDFs (Available on Course Moodle Site):

- Bruhm S, et al. (2004). "Curiouser : on the queerness of children" In *Curiouser : on the queerness of children* (pp ix-xxxviii)
- Carlson, KT (Spring 1996) "The Lynching of Louie Sam" In *BC Studies* . No. 109 (pp 79-63)
- Hendrick, H. (1997). "Constructions and Reconstructions of British Childhood: an Interpretative Survey, 1800 to the Present" In *Constructing and Reconstructing Childhood : Contemporary Issues in the Sociological Study of Childhood*. Alison James et al, eds. 2nd ed. (pp 34-62)
- Jefferess, D. (Spring 2002). "Neither seen nor heard: The Idea of the Child as Impediment of the Rights of Children" In *Topia: A Canadian Journal of Cultural Studies*. No. 7 (pp 75-97)
- Jehlen, M. (1995). "Gender" In *Critical terms for literary study*. Frank Lentricchia et al, eds. (pp 273-263)
- Lesnik-Oberstein, K. (2005) "Essentials: What is Children's Literature? What is Childhood?" In *Understanding Children's Literature*. Peter Hunt, ed. 2nd ed. (pp 15-29)
- Nodelman, P. (1996). "Part II: Culture, Ideology and Children's Literature" In *The Pleasures of Children's Literature* (pp 65-66) & "Chapter 5: Common Assumptions about Childhood" In *The Pleasures of Children's Literature* (pp 67-90)

Note: the bibliographical information which is given above for the pdfs is **NOT** in MLA format.

Open To:

Not Yr 1