

Fall/Winter 2019-2020

AP/EN 2174 3.0N (W)

20th Century Children's Literature

Course Director:

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Delivery Format:

Fully Online

Time:

N/A

Description:

What does childhood mean? How does the concept of the child change through the 20th century and how does children's literature respond to these changes? This course will examine developments in children's literature with special attention paid to topics such as the development of the concepts of adolescence and the teenager, the intersection of children's literature and fantasy, and the rise of young adult fiction. We will discuss adaptations of fairytales, the role that Walt Disney played in sanitizing fairytales, and the continued interest in dismantling Disney's influence on children's culture. We will also explore how the increased autonomy of children led to the fusion of literature and games, most notably in interactive fiction "gamebooks" such as the Choose Your Own Adventure series. Finally we look at how developments in culture such as role-playing games and videogames provided new directions for children's literature.

Category:

D

Historical Requirement:

N/A

Requirements:

Tentative Course Requirements (please note that this is subject to change)

Essay #1 (1000 words) 25%
Essay #2 (1500 words) 30%
Take Home Final Exam (1500 words), 30%
Participation in online discussion forums (15%).

Reading List:

Tentative Reading List (please note that this is subject to change):

J.K. Rowling, *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*
C.S. Lewis, *The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe*
J.R.R. Tolkien, *The Hobbit*.
L. Frank Baum, *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*
J.M. Barrie, *Peter Pan; or, the Boy Who Wouldn't Grow Up*
Roald Dahl, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*
Judy Blume, *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing*
Edward Packard (a selection from the Choose Your Own Adventure series, TBA)
Ernest Cline, *Ready Player One*

Additional readings may be available online and some additional readings may be added

Open To:

YR 2, 3, 4