



**Course Outline**

**UNIVERSITY STUDIES**

**DEPARTMENT OF ARTS, EDUCATION, AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**ENGLISH 289A  
CHILDREN'S LITERATURE IN ENGLISH**

**3 CREDITS  
3 HOURS PER WEEK**



**INSTRUCTOR: Jane Jacques  
Winter 2014**

**INSTRUCTOR:** Jane Jacques  
**PHONE NUMBER:** (780) 791-4836  
**E-MAIL:** jane.jacques@keyano.ca  
**OFFICE NUMBER:** S211-D

**OFFICE HOURS:**

Monday	10:00 – 10:50 AM
Tuesday	9:00 – 9:50 AM
Wednesday	1:00 – 1:50 PM
Thursday	2:00 – 2:50 PM
Friday	9:00-9:50 AM

**HOURS OF INSTRUCTION:**

Monday	12:00 – 1:50 PM	Room 224
Thursday	4:00 – 4:50 PM	Room S110

**PRE-REQUISITE:**

Six credits of junior English or permission of the Chair

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This three-credit senior English course will trace the history of children's literature and explore its evolution from didacticism to delight. A survey of its rich variety will include analysis of animal stories, literary fantasy, adventure, and realism.

**COURSE OUTCOMES:**

The student will be able to:

1. identify the major trends of literature for children since 1500
2. interpret selected texts using standard tools of literary analysis and criticism
3. explain the historical, literary, cultural, and psychological implications of children’s literature

**TEXTS REQUIRED:**

Alcott, Louisa May. *Little Women*

Carroll, Lewis. *Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland*.

Demers, P., ed. *From Instruction to Delight: An Anthology of Children's Literature to 1850*. 3rd ed.

Oppel, Kenneth. *Silverwing*

Paterson, Katherine. *Bridge to Terabithia*.

Rowling, J.K. *Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone*.

Stevenson, Robert Louis. *Treasure Island*.

White, E.B. *Charlotte’s Web*.

Any unabridged version of the novels is acceptable. Additional critical readings may be assigned throughout the course.

**TOPICS TO BE COVERED:**

The following timetable shows the sequence of works studied and the amount of class time to be devoted to each. Students are expected to have read the material for each day BEFORE attending class. The schedule is flexible; attend class and check Moodle to keep informed about changes.

January 6	Introduction to the course; the history of childhood
January 9-23	The early history; didacticism and manners <i>Readings from Demers as posted</i>
January 27-30	Subversive fantasy: <i>Alice in Wonderland</i>
February 3-6	19 <sup>th</sup> c. adventure: boys’ wish-fulfilment: <i>Treasure Island</i> <i>Essay One due Feb. 6</i>
February 10-13	19 <sup>th</sup> c. family drama: girls’ wish-fulfillment: <i>Little Women</i>
February 17	<b>FAMILY DAY: COLLEGE CLOSED</b>
February 20	<b>MIDTERM</b>
February 24-March 2	<b>READING WEEK: NO CLASSES</b>
March 3-6	Mid-20 <sup>th</sup> c. fantasy: <i>Charlotte’s Web</i>
March 10-13	Canadian children’s literature: <i>Silverwing</i>
March 17-20	Late 20 <sup>th</sup> c. drama: <i>Bridge to Terabithia</i>
March 24-27	Late 20 <sup>th</sup> c. fantasy: <i>Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone</i> <i>Essay 2 due March 27</i>
March 31-April 3	Bulk reading and children’s magazines
April 7-10	<b>Oral presentations</b>
April 14-17	Censorship and children’s literature; modern trends; review
<b>APRIL 22-30</b>	<b>FINAL EXAM PERIOD (Do not make travel plans until you know your exam schedule!)</b>

**EVALUATION:**

Assignment	Percentage	Due Date
Essay One	10%	February 6
Essay Two	15%	March 27
In-class assignments	10%	Ongoing
Oral Presentation	10%	April 7-10
Forum	10%	Ongoing
Midterm	15%	February 20
Final Examination	30%	TBA

Both essays must be submitted before a student will be allowed to write the final exam. Students who do not complete all the required work will not pass the course.

**GRADING SYSTEM:**

Letter Grade	Description	Grade Points
A+		4
A	Excellent	4
A-		3.7
B+		3.3
B	Good	3
B-		2.7
C+		2.3
C	Satisfactory	2
C-		1.7
D+		1.3
D	Minimal Pass	1
F	Failure	0

Students intending to transfer to other institutions require a ‘C-’ as a minimum grade. Transfer information on each course is available at the [Alberta Council on Admission and Transfers](#).

**WRITING ASSIGNMENTS:**

Throughout the course, you will complete a total of twelve informal writing assignments. Informal writing may involve responding to questions in paragraph form in class; researching and writing responses to questions outside class; or writing a personal or creative response to an assigned reading. I will grade the informal writing on a scale of 5, and at the end of the term, I will drop your two lowest grades. If you contact me in advance of an absence, you may be allowed to submit the informal writing.

Essays must be submitted on the due date, which is always a Thursday. Essays handed in on Friday lose 10%, until 3 p.m. NO essays will be accepted after 3 p.m. on Friday. It is not my policy to comment on late essays. Extensions will NOT be granted except under circumstances of bereavement or documented illness. Computer or printer failure is seldom an acceptable reason for granting an extension. Essays must be double spaced in 12 pt Times New Roman font and submitted with proper MLA documentation. Do NOT submit essays to me by e-mail. It is always preferable to hand an essay to me directly. Be sure to keep a copy of any essay that you hand in.

**IMPORTANT DATES:**

January 17, 2014	Courses dropped after this date will be designated “W”. (A withdrawal (W) is not reflected in your GPA)
February 20, 2014	Mid-term examination (tentative)
March 7, 2014	Courses dropped after this date will be designated “WF”. (A withdrawal failure (WF) counts as a 0 in your GPA)
April 17, 2014	Last day of classes

**MOODLE**

<http://ilearn.keyano.ca/>

This course is supplemented by Moodle, an online course support tool. Assignments, readings and handouts will be posted on Moodle. Links will also be posted to readings and relevant websites on the internet. Lecture notes will not be posted; taking notes in class is an active form of participation. Please check the site frequently.

**ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY**

Students are expected to attend all lectures, to arrive on time and to remain for the duration of the class. You owe it to yourself, to the other students and to me as your instructor to attend regularly and punctually. If you are unable to attend, it is courteous to contact me in advance. Your cell phone must be turned OFF and put away during class.

**EQUALITY, EQUITY AND RESPECT**

Keyano College is committed to providing an environment of equality, equity and respect for all people within the College community. All members of this community are considered partners in developing teaching and learning contexts that are welcoming to all. Faculty, staff, and students are encouraged to use inclusive language to create a classroom atmosphere in which students' experiences and views are treated with equal respect in relation to their gender, ethnic and cultural background, and sexual orientation. *Students should consult:*

<http://www.keyano.ca/StudentLife/StudentConduct/IndividualRightsPolicy>

**PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING**

Every student expects to be treated and evaluated fairly in a course. Plagiarism and cheating robs everyone of this right.

No student may submit words, ideas or data of another student or person as his or her own in any writing, project, assignment, quiz, electronic presentation, exam etc. Any work used that is not the student's own must be clearly cited as belonging to someone else. There are penalties for using another's work and not citing it. The Student's Rights & Responsibilities document clearly outlines these penalties and the appeal process.

- No learner can obtain information from another student during an exam.
- No learner can bring unauthorized information (paper or electronic) into an exam or quiz.

- No student can submit work done in another course for grading in this course without the written prior approval of the course instructor.
  - No student can submit copyright protected or commercially produced materials as part or all of an assignment without proper citation & permission.
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## Picture-Books in Winter

Summer fading, winter comes--  
Frosty mornings, tingling thumbs,  
Window robins, winter rooks,  
And the picture story-books.

Water now is turned to stone  
Nurse and I can walk upon;  
Still we find the flowing brooks  
In the picture story-books.

All the pretty things put by,  
Wait upon the children's eye,  
Sheep and shepherds, trees and crooks,  
In the picture story-books.

We may see how all things are  
Seas and cities, near and far,  
And the flying fairies' looks,  
In the picture story-books.

How am I to sing your praise,  
Happy chimney-corner days,  
Sitting safe in nursery nooks,  
Reading picture story-books?

- Robert Louis Stevenson (1850-1894)