

**ENGLISH 289A: Children's Literature in English**

*3 credits, 16 weeks, 3 hours lecture*

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. Through the study of classic and contemporary works, students will develop an understanding of literary theory and criticism.

*Prerequisite: 6 credits of junior English*

**Instructor**

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**Office Hours**

Monday	11:00-11:50 AM 1:00-1:50 PM
Tuesday	11-11:50 AM
Wednesday	2:00-2:50 PM
Friday	11-11:50 AM

**Hours of Instruction**

Wednesday	11-12:50
Friday	2-2:50

**Required Resources**

Burnett, Frances Hodgson. *The Secret Garden*.  
Carroll, Lewis. *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and *Through the Looking-Glass*.  
Demers, P., ed. *From Instruction to Delight: An Anthology of Children's Literature to 1850*. 4th ed. Toronto: Oxford UP, ISBN 978-0-19-901086-2  
Mowat, Farley. *Owls in the Family*.  
Paterson, Katherine. *Bridge to Terabithia*.  
Rowling, J.K. *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*.  
Stevenson, Robert Louis. *Treasure Island*.

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

**Course Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of the course, 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

**Evaluation**

<i>Assignment</i>	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
<b>Essay One</b>	<b>10%</b>	January 27
<b>Censorship Analysis</b>	<b>10%</b>	February 10
<b>Essay Two</b>	<b>15%</b>	March 23
<b>In-class writing</b>	<b>10%</b>	Ongoing
<b>Oral Presentation</b>	<b>10%</b>	April 6-8
<b>Midterm</b>	<b>15%</b>	March 2
<b>Final Examination</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>TBA</b>

**Both essays and the censorship analysis 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.**

*A grade of C- is required for progression or transfer.*

**Grading System**

<b>Descriptor</b>	<b>Alpha Grade</b>	<b>4.0 Scale</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Rubric for Letter Grades</b>
Excellent	A+	4.0	> 92.9	Work shows in-depth and critical analysis, well developed ideas, creativity, excellent writing, clarity and proper format.
	A	4.0	85 – 92.9	
	A-	3.7	80 – 84.9	
Good	B+	3.3	77 – 79.9	Work is generally of high quality, well developed, well written, has clarity, and uses proper format.
	B	3.0	74 – 76.9	
	B-	2.7	70 – 73.9	
Satisfactory <b>Progression</b>	C+	2.3	67 – 69.9	Work has some developed ideas but needs more attention to clarity, style and formatting.
	C	2.0	64 – 66.9	
	C-	1.7	60 – 63.9	
Poor <b>Minimum Pass</b>	D+	1.3	55 – 59.9	Work is completed in a general way with minimal support, or is poorly written or did not use proper format.
	D	1.0	50 – 54.9	
Failure	F	0.0	< 50	Responses fail to demonstrate appropriate understanding or are fundamentally incomplete.

**Proposed Schedule of Topics**

January 6-8	Introduction to the course; the history of childhood
January 13-22	The early history; didacticism and manners <i>Readings from Demers as posted</i>
January 27-29	Subversive fantasy: <i>Alice in Wonderland</i> <b>Essay One due Jan. 27</b>
February 3-5	Subverting language and logic: <i>Alice Through the Looking-Glass</i>
February 10-12	19 <sup>th</sup> c. boy's adventure: <i>Treasure Island</i> <b>Censorship Analysis due Feb. 10</b>
February 17-19	Early 20 <sup>th</sup> c. girl's adventure: <i>The Secret Garden</i>
<b>Feb. 22-28</b>	<b>READING WEEK: NO CLASSES</b>
<b>March 2</b>	<b>MIDTERM</b>
March 4-9	Mid 20 <sup>th</sup> c. animal stories: <i>Owls in the Family</i>
March 11-16	Late 20 <sup>th</sup> c. realism: <i>Bridge to Terabithia</i>
March 18-23	Late 20 <sup>th</sup> c. fantasy: <i>Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone</i> <b>Essay 2 due March 23</b>
<b>March 25</b>	<b>GOOD FRIDAY: COLLEGE CLOSED</b>
March 30-April 1	Bulk reading and children's magazines
April 6-8	<b>Oral presentations</b>
April 13-16	Recent trends in children's literature; review
<b>APRIL 18-22</b>	<b>FINAL EXAM PERIOD (Do not make travel plans until you know your exam schedule!)</b>

**Please Note:**

Date and time allotted to each topic is subject to change. It is your responsibility as a student to contact the Office of the Registrar to complete the forms for Withdrawal or Change of Registration, and any other forms. Please refer to the list of important dates as noted in the Academic Schedule in the Keyano College Credit Calendar.

**Performance Requirements**

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 Wednesday. Essays handed in on Thursday will be graded without additional comments and will also lose 10% up to 3 p.m., when they will be REFUSED. NO essays will be accepted after 3 p.m. on Thursday. 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, and a conflict of deadlines is NEVER an acceptable reason. Essays must be typed in 12-pt Times New Roman, double spaced, and submitted with proper MLA documentation. Do NOT submit essays to me by e-mail or through Moodle. It is always preferable to hand an essay to me directly. Be sure to keep a copy of any essay that you hand in.

### **Student Attendance**

Class attendance is useful for two reasons. First, class attendance maximizes a student's learning experience. Second, attending class is a good way to keep informed of matters relating to the administration of the course (e.g., the timing of assignments and exams). Ultimately, you are responsible for your own learning and performance in this course.

It is the responsibility of each student to be prepared for all classes. Students who miss classes are responsible for the material covered in those classes and for ensuring that they are prepared for the next class, including the completion of any assignments and / or notes that may be due.

### **Academic Misconduct**

Students are considered to be responsible adults and should adhere to principles of intellectual integrity. Intellectual dishonesty may take many forms, such as:

- Plagiarism or the submission of another person's work as one's own
- The use of unauthorized aids in assignments or examinations (cheating)
- Collusion or the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing work
- The deliberate misrepresentation of qualifications
- The willful distortion of results or data
- Substitution in an examination by another person
- Handing in the same unchanged work as submitted for another assignment
- Breach of confidentiality

The consequences for academic misconduct range from a verbal reprimand to expulsion from the College. More specific descriptions and details are found in the Student Rights and Student Code of Conduct section of the Keyano College 2015-2016 credit calendar. It is the responsibility of each student to be aware of the guidelines outlined in the Student Rights and Student Code of Conduct Policies.

Before submitting your first essay, you must complete the Plagiarism Certificate at [ilearn.keyano.ca](http://ilearn.keyano.ca). If you completed this certification last term, show evidence to your instructor.

### **Specialized Supports**

#### **Counselling and Disability Services**

Counselling Services provides a wide range of specialized counselling services to prospective and registered students, including personal, career and academic counselling.

#### **SKILL Centre**

The SKILL Centre is a learning space in the Clearwater Campus at Keyano College where students can gather to share ideas, collaborate on projects and get new perspectives on learning from our tutorial staff.

The SKILL Centre, through a variety of delivery methods, provides assistance in skill development to Keyano students. Assistance is provided by instructors, staff and student tutors. Individuals wishing to improve their mathematics, writing, grammar, study, or other skills, can take advantage of this unique service.

**Authorization**

This course outline has been reviewed and approved by the Program Chair.

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Jane Jacques, Instructor

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Louis Dingley, Chair

Date Authorized

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Guy Harmer, Dean

Date Authorized

**Signed copies to be delivered to:**

Instructor

Registrar's Office