

ENGLISH 289A: Children's Literature in English

3 credits, 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	2:00-2:50 p.m.
Tuesday	2:00-2:50 p.m.
Wednesday	11-11:50 a.m.
Thursday	10:00-10:50 a.m.
Friday	11:00-11:50 a.m.

Hours of Instruction

Wednesday	12:30-1:50 p.m.
Friday	12:30-1:50 p.m.

Required Resources

Carroll, Lewis. *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland and Through the Looking-Glass*.
Demers, Patricia, editor. *From Instruction to Delight: An Anthology of Children's Literature to 1850*. 4th ed. Oxford UP, 2015.
Ellis, Deborah. *No Ordinary Day*.
Hicks, Faith Erin. *The Nameless City*.
Montgomery, L.M. *Anne of Green Gables*.
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 will be assigned throughout the course.

Course Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, the student shall be able to:

- identify the major trends of literature for children since 1500
- interpret selected texts using standard tools of literary analysis and criticism
- explain the historical, literary, cultural, and psychological implications of children's literature

Evaluation

<i>Assignment</i>	Percentage	Date Assigned	Date Due
Essay One	10%	January 12	February 7
Essay Two	15%	February 9	March 14
Children's Book Project	10%	January 17	April 11
Oral Presentation	10%	February 28	April 4-6
Midterm Examination	15%	n/a	February 28
In-class writing/quizzes	10%	Ongoing	Ongoing
Final Examination	30%	n/a	TBA

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

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; writing a personal or creative response to an assigned reading; or responding to questions on a quiz. 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. Informal writing is always completed in class.

Essays and the children's book project must be submitted on the due date, which is always a Wednesday. Essays and projects 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 or projects will be accepted after 3 p.m. on Thursday. Extensions will NOT be granted except under circumstances of bereavement or serious 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 work to me directly. Be sure to keep a copy of any essay that you hand in.

Students who do not complete all the required work will not pass the course.

Grading System

Descriptor	Alpha Grade	4.0 Scale	Percent	Rubric for Letter Grades
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 Progression	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 Minimum Pass	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

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS	ASSIGNMENTS	OTHER
January 10	Introduction to course		Informal in-class writing: <i>What children's books did you enjoy as a child?</i>	
January 12	Introduction to the History of Childhood		Essay One assigned Jan. 12 (due February 7)	
January 17-19	Early Children's Literature: pre-1850	Readings from Demers (posted on Moodle)	Children's book project assigned January 17	
January 24-26		Readings from Demers (posted on Moodle)		
January 31-February 2	Subversive Fantasy	Carroll, <i>Alice in Wonderland</i>		
February 7-9	Boys' Adventures: Conquering the World	Stevenson, <i>Treasure Island</i>	Essay Two assigned February 9 (due March 14)	Essay One due February 7
February 14-16	Girls' Adventures: Conquering Personal Desires	Montgomery, <i>Anne of Green Gables</i>		

February 19	FAMILY	DAY	COLLEGE	CLOSED
February 20-23	READING	DAYS	NO	CLASSES
February 28	MIDTERM	IN	CLASS	1 HOUR
March 2	Children's Bulk Reading			
MARCH 3	KEYANO	UNIVERSITY	STUDIES	CONFERENCE
March 7-9	Talking Animals in Children's Fiction	White, <i>Charlotte's Web</i>		
March 14-16	Wizards, Wands, and Wish-Fulfillment: Late 20 th c. Fantasy	Rowling, <i>Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone</i>		Essay Two due March 14
March 21-23	Children's Graphic Novels	Hicks, <i>The Nameless City</i>		
March 28	Globalism in Children's Literature	Ellis, <i>No Ordinary Day</i>		
March 30	GOOD	FRIDAY	COLLEGE	CLOSED
April 4-6	ORAL PRESENTATIONS			
April 11-13	Censorship and Current Trends			Children's book project due April 11
APRIL 16-20	FINAL EXAM PERIOD			

Please Note:

Date and time allotted to each topic is subject to change.

Performance Requirements**Student Responsibilities**

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.

More specific details are found in the Student Rights and Student Code of Conduct section of the Keyano College 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.

Student Attendance

Class attendance is useful for two reasons. First, class attendance maximizes a students' 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 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.

In order to ensure your understanding of the concept of plagiarism, you must successfully complete the online tutorial found on ilearn.keyano.ca. Then print the certificate, sign it, and show it to each of your instructors. Your course work will not be graded until you show this signed certificate.

Specialized Supports**Counselling and Accessibility 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.