

## COURSE OUTLINE - Winter 2026

### EN3890(A3): Studies in Children's Literature - 3 (3-0-0) 45 Hours for 15 Weeks

Northwestern Polytechnic acknowledges that our campuses are located on Treaty 8 territory, the ancestral and present-day home to many diverse First Nations, Metis, and Inuit people. We are grateful to work, live and learn on the traditional territory of Duncan's First Nation, Horse Lake First Nation and Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation, who are the original caretakers of this land.

We acknowledge the history of this land and we are thankful for the opportunity to walk together in friendship, where we will encourage and promote positive change for present and future generations.

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Heather Joyce      **PHONE:** 780-539-2977  
**OFFICE:** C418      **E-MAIL:** hjoyce@nwpolytech.ca  
**OFFICE HOURS:** Mondays 3:00 p.m.-4:15 p.m. and by appointment

**CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:** This course examines children's literature in English in historical and contemporary contexts.

**PREREQUISITE(S):** Six credits of Junior English

**COREQUISITE(S):** None

#### **REQUIRED MATERIALS:**

Achebe, Chinua. *Chike and the River*.  
Carroll, Lewis. *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*.  
Eagle, Judith. *The Pear Affair*.  
Rowling, J. K. *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*.  
Selznick, Brian. *The Invention of Hugo Cabret*.

Additional readings will be posted on myClass (D2L). It is your responsibility to ensure that you are able to access and read these works in advance of the class in which they will be discussed.

**DELIVERY MODE(S):** This course is delivered on campus. Students are required to attend lectures, participate in class discussions, and complete the assessments listed below.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:** After taking this course, successful students will be able to

- articulate the theoretical and historical issues involved in (de)constructing the canon of children’s literature
- define key terms and concepts appropriate to the study of children’s literature
- use appropriate literary terminology when discussing representative works
- construct a persuasive argument that derives from close reading
- confidently read critical works and use secondary sources to enhance interpretation of primary sources
- articulate and set into action skills crucial to effective composition at the senior level.

**TRANSFERABILITY:**

Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check to ensure the transferability of this course at the Alberta Transfer Guide main page <http://ww.transferalberta.alberta.ca>

\*\* For courses with alpha (letter) grading, a grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. **Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability**

**EVALUATIONS:**

- Reading Quizzes – 10%
- Tasks – 20%
- Task Extension Assignment – 15%
- Writing Assignment – 15%
- Midterm – 15%
- Final Exam – 25%

**GRADING CRITERIA:**

Please note that most institutions will not accept your course for transfer credit **IF** your grade is **less than C-**.

**Grading Chart**

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines	Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
A+	4.0	95-100	C+	2.3	67-69
A	4.0	85-94	C	2.0	63-66

A-	3.7	80-84	C-	1.7	60-62
B+	3.3	77-79	D+	1.3	55-59
B	3.0	73-76	D	1.0	50-54
B-	2.7	70-72	F	0.0	00-49

## COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

Week 1: Introduction

Weeks 2-5: Origins

Weeks 6-8: Twentieth-Century Inventions

Weeks 9-12: Late Twentieth-Century Revisions and Adaptations

Weeks 13-14: Critical Considerations

Week 15: Review

A complete schedule of readings will be posted on myClass (D2L).

## STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. This course will be delivered on campus. Some course components (reading quizzes, tasks, the midterm, and the final exam) require onsite attendance.
2. Reading quizzes and tasks will be completed during class. Missed assessments can be completed only in extenuating circumstances. The instructor should be notified by e-mail of the impending absence as soon as is reasonably possible. Students may need to provide documentation. Missed assessments should be made up within two weeks of the missed class (unless extenuating circumstances preclude that possibility).
3. Students must complete the midterm and the final exam during the allotted times. Alternative examination dates will be considered only in extenuating circumstances. Documentation may be required.
4. Assignments are to be uploaded to myClass (D2L) and submitted directly to me in hard-copy form. I will not accept assignments submitted via e-mail. Assignments will not be considered received until both hard-copy and electronic versions have been submitted.
5. It is the student's responsibility to retain a copy of ALL assignments submitted for grading; in the unlikely event of loss, a duplicate copy must be made available upon request.

6. Written assignments are to be submitted on time. Late assignments will incur a penalty of 5% per day with weekends counting as two days.
7. Extensions will be granted for written assignments in extenuating circumstances. Documentation may be required.
8. Students are required to check the myClass (D2L) site for this course before each class to stay informed.
9. The myClass (D2L) site for this course contains everything students need to be successful. Students should resist the temptation to go outside of the course to consult literary guides, other websites, etc.
10. **Students are not permitted to use any AI resources (including but not limited to ChatGPT, Grammarly's AI tools, etc.) when completing in-class and out-of-class assignments for this course. All of the work you submit also MUST be your own.** We will discuss academic integrity in class, covering both what constitutes academic misconduct at NWP and the research and citation practices that can help students ensure they avoid charges of academic dishonesty and the associated penalties. Please note students are required to accept the Turnitin user agreement when submitting assignments via myClass (D2L).
11. You are welcome to contact me via e-mail to ask questions, etc. Please note that you are more likely to receive a quick response if you contact me during regular working hours (Monday to Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.). My response time on weekends will be slower. I will respond to most e-mails within 48 hours (depending on the volume of e-mails I receive). If you have a complicated question or are seeking specific assignment advice (if you would like me to read drafts, make suggestions regarding essay structure, etc.), you should drop in during my regular office hours or contact me via e-mail and ask to meet outside of those hours.

#### **STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT:**

Academic Misconduct will not be tolerated. For a more precise definition of academic misconduct and its consequences, refer to the Student Rights and Responsibilities policy available at <https://www.nwpolytech.ca/about/polytechnic-leadership/policies-directory>.

**\*\*Note:** all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.