



DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION

COURSE OUTLINE – FALL 2012

EN 3890 (A2/TC): STUDIES IN CHILDREN'S LITERATURE – (3-0-0) UT 45 HOURS

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Louise Saldanha **PHONE:** 780.539.2869
OFFICE: C308 **EMAIL:** lsaldanha@gprc.ab.ca

OFFICE HOURS: Tues/Thurs: 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. or by appointment

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE: Six credits of Junior English

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:

Griffith & Frey. *Classics of Children's Literature* (6^h edition)

Munsch, Robert. *The Paperbag Princess*

Brown, Margaret Wise. *Goodnight Moon*

Seuss, Theodore, Dr. *The Cat in the Hat*

Gilmore, Rachna. *Lights for Gita*

Tamaki, Mariko. *Skim*

Philip, Marlene Nourbese. *Harriet's Daughter*

Bouchard, David. *Nokum is my Teacher*

Loyie, Larry. *As Long as the Rivers Flow*

Collins, Suzanne. *The Hunger Games*

I prefer you use the editions of the books on sale at the GPRC Bookstore. If, however, you use other editions, please make certain that they are all unabridged (that no changes have been made to the original text).

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

CREDIT/CONTACT HOURS: (3-0-0) UT 45 Hours 3 credits

DELIVERY MODE(S): The course work includes videoconference, lectures, class discussions, group work, student presentations, and written assignments.

TRANSFERABILITY:

- Athabasca University: ENGL 3xx (3)
- University of Alberta: ENGL 389 (3)
- University of Calgary: Sr. ENGL (3)
- The University of Lethbridge: ENGL 2610 (3)

**** 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**

OBJECTIVES: This course aims to develop an adult understanding of and appreciation for the texts children read. We will do so by focusing on the dynamics of race, gender, class, and cultural difference in relation to writing/reading/teaching practices, within the context of our assumptions and attitudes about children and culture. The course will foreground the ways children's literature "teaches" children about being and living in the world and is therefore always political and non-neutral. *Because this is an English class rather than a course in Education, the emphasis is on literary critical skills rather than on methods or curriculum development.*

GRADING CRITERIA: The following grading scheme will be used in this course:

| Alpha Grade | 4-Point Equivalence | Percentage | Designation |
|-------------|------------------------|------------|----------------------|
| A+ | 4.0 | 96 – 100 | Excellent |
| A | 4.0 | 95 – 90 | Excellent |
| A- | 3.7 | 85 – 89 | First Class Standing |
| B+ | 3.3 | 80 – 84 | First Class Standing |
| B | 3.0 | 75 – 79 | Good |
| B- | 2.7 | 70 – 74 | Good |
| C+ | 2.3 | 67 – 69 | Satisfactory |
| C | 2.0 | 64 – 66 | Satisfactory |
| C- | 1.7 | 60 – 63 | Satisfactory |
| D+ | 1.3 | 55 – 59 | Poor |
| D | 1 | 50 – 54 | Minimal Pass |
| F | 0.0 | 0 – 49 | Failure |

EVALUATION:

| | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Weekly Oral Responses | 10% |
| Class Presentation | 20% |
| Writing Assignment One | 5% |
| Writing Assignment Two | 15% |
| Writing Assignment Three | 15% |
| Final Project | 25% |
| Class Participation | 10% |

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. **Laptops and other electronic devices, including cellular phones, MUST be turned off during class.**
2. **Work submitted for evaluation must be typed and double-spaced.**
3. **All work must be submitted personally to me. It is the student's responsibility to retain a photocopy or electronic back-up copy of ALL assignments submitted for grading; in the event of loss or theft, a duplicate copy is required.**
4. **Late assignments will not be accepted unless arrangements for late submissions have been made with me at least two days prior to the date on which the assignment is due.**
5. **Attendance: You are expected to attend all classes and are responsible for obtaining information given in classes you miss. You must check to make sure you received all handouts as this material may be covered on exams as well. I am not able to keep track of who did not receive handouts so be responsible for yourself.**
6. **Attendance Policy: You are allowed two unexcused absences. These absences require no explanation on your part—they are “freebies.” An excused absence needs to be cleared with me and usually requires documentation. Any unexcused absences beyond two will lower your grade, and your participation grade will be affected.**
7. **Moodle: Students are expected to check the Moodle site for this course before each meeting to stay apprised of course updates, announcements, etc.**

8. Email messages: Feel free to send me email messages regarding course related matters.

Because of the large number of emails I receive daily, please allow approx. 48 hours for a reply, and please follow these requirements:

- Please include your name, course, and section number in the message, as this is not always clear from your email address.
- Remember that your communications with me are occurring in an academic environment. Messages can be written informally—but do pay attention to correct grammar and spelling (especially since you are corresponding with an English professor!)

9. Email attachments: Should you need to send me an assignment as an attachment, please follow these requirements:

- I can only open attachments if these are sent as a Word document (.doc or .docx) or in Rich Text Format (.rtf).
- I will only open attachments if these are accompanied by a note from you in the email message indicating the name of the assignment, its length, and its formatting. I will not open attachments simply sent without a note from you.
- I will always inform you upon successful receipt of an attachment.

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

Refer to the Student Conduct section of the College Admission Guide at

<http://www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/> or the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/**

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

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

Weeks 1 – 2: History and Ideology

Weeks 3 – 4: Folk and Fairy Tales

Weeks 5 – 8: “Classic” Children’s Literature

Weeks 9 – 10: Picturebooks

Weeks 11 – 12: Canadian and Aboriginal Children’s Literature

Weeks 13 – 14: Contemporary Children’s Literature