

## ANG-2006: CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

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### Course Description and Objectives

This course takes a historical approach to introduce students to the traditions and key characteristics of literature created for and read by children and young adults. As an area of inquiry in literary studies, the study of children's literature is shaped by changing definitions both of childhood and of the role of literature in society. This class will address some of the main concerns raised by the perceived socializing function of children's literature and the transmission of cultural values: this includes, but is not limited to, representations of gender, sexuality, violence, and death and related issues of censorship. The aim is to enhance students' ability to independently read and interpret literature in both its textual and visual manifestations, to develop their language skills in written and spoken English, and to give them valuable practice in demonstrating these abilities in both formal and informal evaluations.

### Pedagogical Approach

This class combines lectures (with the use of PowerPoint presentations and other media), general class discussion, and small group participation with a focus on the close reading and interpretation of each individual work within its socio-historical context and its place in the field of children's literature in general. Students are encouraged to put forward ideas and to contribute to the ensuing debates and should be prepared to participate by reading in advance the work(s) that will be discussed each week. Students are expected to attend all classes and are responsible for all information and instruction provided in them.

### Quality of Language

Quality of English will be one of the factors in evaluating work. Lectures and group discussions are held in English. During exams, no bilingual dictionaries are permitted, but students will have access to a class set of English dictionaries.

### Evaluation

Participation Assignments: 5%

In-class Test: 30%

Essay/Project: 30%

Final Exam: 35%

### Required Texts

Required texts will be available at *La Maison Anglaise*, Place de la Cité. Further readings will be posted on the course website (Portail).

- Plagiat / voir *Règlement des études de l'Université Laval* <http://www.lit.ulaval.ca/index.php?id=493>
- Centre de prévention et d'intervention en matière de harcèlement : <https://www.ulaval.ca/services-ul/harcelement.html>

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#### Échelle de conversion de notes (1<sup>er</sup> cycle)

**Excellent :** A+ = 94-100    A = 89-93    A- = 85-88  
**Très bon :** B+ = 82-84    B = 78-81    B- = 75-77

**Passable :** D+ = 61-64    D = 55-60  
**Insuffisant :** E = 0-54