

English 271.1: Literature for Young Children

Spring 2020 Professor Jan Susina

Class Meeting: Tuesday & Thursday 9:35-10:50 a.m.

Classroom: Stevenson 221-B

Office: Stevenson 402

Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 12:30—1:30 p.m.

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Tentative Syllabus:

Jan. 14 Introduction & Overview to the Course

Jan. 16 French Fairy Tales in M.C. Waldrep's *Favorite Fairy Tales*:

Perrault's "Cinderella, or the Little Glass Slipper," "Little Red Riding-Hood,"

"Toads and Diamonds," "The Master Cat; or, Puss in Boots."

Madame De Villeneuve's "Beauty and the Beast," &

Perrault's "Sleeping Beauty in the Wood" (website)

Jan. 21 German Folk Tales in M.C. Waldrep's *Favorite Fairy Tales*:

Grimm's "Snowdrop [Snow White & the Seven Dwarfs]," "Rapunzel,"

"Rumpelstilzkin," "The Goose-Girl,"

Grimm's "Little Red-Cap" & "Hansel and Gretel" (website)

Jan. 23 Hans Christian Andersen's Literary Fairy Tales in M.C. Waldrep's *Favorite*

Fairy Tales: "How to Tell a True Princess [The Princess and the Pea]," "The

Nightingale," "The Ugly Ducking," "The Story of the Emperor's New Clothes,"

& in Hans Christian Andersen's *The Little Mermaid and Other Fairy Tales*

"The Little Mermaid," "The Swineherd," "The Steadfast Tin Soldier,"

Deadline for Sign-up for Children's Film for Film Paper.

Jan. 28 Aesop's Fables & English Folk Tales:

Joseph Jacobs, ed., *The Fables of Aesop*

English Folk Tales in M.C. Waldrep's *Favorite Fairy Tales*: "Jack and the

Beanstalk," & "Three Little Pigs"

Jan. 30 Americanizing Fairy Tales: Walt Disney's Film Adaptation of Fairy Tales:

"Steamboat Willie" "The Three Little Pigs" "Snow White and the Seven

"Dwarfs," "Cinderella" & "The Little Mermaid" (show clips in class)

Deadline for Sign-up for Picture Book for Picture Book Paper.

Feb. 4 Rewriting and Revising Fairy Tales: Jon Scieszka & Lane Smith's

The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales

Children's Film Paper Due.

Feb. 6 Early Readers: Arnold Lobel's *Frog and Toad Are Friends*

Feb. 11 Perry Nodelman's "The Relationship of Words and Pictures" From *Words About Pictures: The Narrative Art of Children's Picture Books* (website)

Feb. 13 Molly Bang's *Picture This: How Pictures Work*

Feb. 18 Mother Goose Rhymes: E. F. Bleiler, ed., *Mother Goose's Melodies* (website)

Feb. 20 Philip Smith, ed., *Favorite Poems of Childhood*

Feb 25 Children's Music and Children's Books about Music (play music in class)
Proposal for Picture Book Paper, Working Title, 1-2-page proposal, & Works Cited with Four Annotated Secondary Sources Due.

Feb. 27 Beatrix Potter's *the Tale of Peter Rabbit* in *The Complete Adventures of Peter Rabbit*

Mar. 3 Beatrix Potter's *Tale of Benjamin Bunny*, *Tale of the Flopsy Bunnies* & *Tale of Mr. Tod* in *The Complete Adventures of Peter Rabbit*.

Mar. 5 **Midterm Exam.**

Mar. 10 **Spring Break**—no class

Mar. 12 **Spring Break**—no class

Mar. 17 Crockett Johnson's *Harold and the Purple Crayon*

Mar. 19 Margaret Wise Brown's *Goodnight Moon*
 Brown's *Runaway Bunny* (Reserve in Milner Library)

Mar. 23 Lois Lenski Children's Literature Lecture: Ivan Brunetti, Columbia College-Chicago, "Graphic Novels for Young Readers," 7--8:15 p.m. Center for Visual Arts 151 **Extra Credit.**

Mar. 24 Ivan Brunetti's *Comics: Easy as ABC!*

Mar. 26 Alphabet Books, Board Books, Pop-up Books & Golden Books

Mar. 31. Dr. Seuss's *And to Think I Saw It on Mulberry Street* & *The Lorax* (Reserve in Milner Library)

Apr. 2 **Picture Book Paper Due.**

Apr. 7 Dr. Seuss's *The Cat in the Hat*

Apr. 9 Maurice Sendak's *Where the Wild Things Are*
Sendak's *In the Night Kitchen & Outside Over There* (Reserve in Milner Library)

Apr. 14 Diversity in Children's Picture Books:
Ezra Jack Keats's *The Snowy Day*
Faith Ringgold's *Tar Beach*, Emily Jenkins's *A Fine Dessert*, Ed Young's *Lon Po Po*, & Justin Richardson & Peter Parnell's *And Tango Makes Three*
(Reserve in Milner Library)

Apr. 16 Information Books: Barbara Kerley's *The Dinosaurs of Waterhouse Hawkins*

Apr. 21 Chapter Books (Fantasy): A.A. Milne's *Winnie-the-Pooh* (chapters 1-5)

Apr. 23 Chapter Books (Fantasy): A.A. Milne's *Winnie-the-Pooh* (chapters 6-10)

Apr. 28 Chapter Books (Realism): Beverly Cleary's *Ramona the Brave* (chapters 1-5)

May 30 Chapter Books (Realism): Beverly Cleary's *Ramona the Brave* (chapters 6-9)
Review for Final Exam

May 4--8: **Final Exam** (TBA).

Goals of the course:

This will be a course in children's literature, which concentrates on texts that are read to or read by children from ages five to nine or grades one through three. We will consider various interpretations of folk tales, fables, nursery rhymes, poems, music, picture books, informational books, chapter books, series books, and and/or video created for, or presented to children, what we know about how children understand and use them, and how children's books express and confirm certain attitudes and beliefs about childhood.

Required Texts:

M.C. Waldrep, editor. *Favorite Fairy Tales: 27 Stories by Brothers Grimm, Andersen, Perrault and Others*. Dover.

Hans Christian Andersen. *The Little Mermaid and Other Fairy Tales*. Dover.

Jon Scieszka & Lane Smith. *The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales*. Puffin.

Aesop. *The Fables of Aesop*. Joseph Jacobs, editor. Dover.

Arnold Lobel. *Frog and Toad Are Friends*. Harper Trophy.

Philip Smith, ed. *Favorite Poems of Childhood*. Dover.

Beatrix Potter. *The Complete Adventures of Peter Rabbit*. Penguin.

Margaret Wise Brown. *Goodnight Moon*. Harper Collins.

Crockett Johnson. *Harold and the Purple Crayon*. Harper Collins.

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Required Texts continued:

Dr. Seuss. *The Cat in the Hat*. Random House.

Maurice Sendak. *Where the Wild Things Are*. Harper Collins.

Barbara Kerley. *The Dinosaurs of Waterhouse Hawkins*. Harper Collins.

Ezra Jack Keats. *The Snowy Day*. Harper Collins.

A.A. Milne. *Winnie-the-Pooh*. Puffin.

Beverly Cleary. *Ramona the Brave*. Avon.

Ivan Brunetti. *Comics Easy as ABC!* TOON Books.

Molly Bang. *Picture This: How Pictures Work*. Chronicle Books

Recommended Text:

The Modern Language Association of America. *The MLA Handbook: Eighth Edition*.

MLA. (This text is not required, but strongly recommended.)

Course Format:

The class will be reading and discussing a variety of children's texts that are intended for pre-readers and young readers up until the third grade. Students need to read the assignments prior to class and be prepared to discuss them in class. The class will involve lecture, discussion, and small group work. Throughout the semester, students will be assigned a series of short writing projects and reading quizzes related to the assignments.

Class Attendance:

Class attendance is important and is intended to be a valuable experience. If you must miss class, you should have a good reason for your absence. Since you can't be two places at the same time, avoid scheduling other activities during class time. Students are expected to participate in class discussion and a portion of the final grade will be based on class discussion. If a student misses more than **three** class sessions, the final grade will be lowered a third of a letter grade for each additional class missed. Students who miss a class or comes in late will not be allowed to make up an in-class writing assignment and/or a reading quiz. Do not use of cell phones, pagers, texting devices in class. Turn them off prior to class.

Exams:

There will be two exams given during the semester, one of which will be a cumulative final exam. The final exam will be scheduled, according to the Spring 2020 Final Exam Schedule when it is made available to faculty & students. The exams will include objective and short identification items as well as essay questions.

Children's Film Paper:

Students will write a short analysis (3-page, typed, doubled spaced) on a children's film selected from a list provided by the instructor. Students will locate and read the entry for the film on Wikipedia and at least one film review of the film from either *The New York Times*, *Los Angeles Times* online, or Roger Ebert's website (rogerebert.com). The analysis should cite at least **two** of those secondary sources and **the film** itself. The film analysis paper should conform to the format found in *The MLA Handbook*.

Picture Book Paper:

Each student will write a short (7-10 page, typed, doubled spaced) scholarly analysis of a children's picture book selected from a list of titles provided by the professor. Students will submit a proposal for their research paper, which will include a minimum of **4** secondary sources in their Works Cited section. The sources need be scholarly, academic, peer-reviewed sources. Those sources need to be annotated. **Only half** of the secondary sources can be electronic sources. Students Critical papers need to conform to the format that is outlined in *The MLA Handbook*. *The MLA Handbook* shows the appropriate method for citing material within papers and manner to create a Works Cited page. Students are strongly encouraged to purchase a copy of *The MLA Handbook*, if they do not already own a copy. The handbook will be of use in this course and most other English courses you plan to take at ISU. The Work Cited section of the picture book paper must have a minimum of **six** secondary sources. These sources do not need to be annotated. **Only half** of those secondary sources can be electronic. These need to be scholarly, academic, peer-reviewed sources. Keep an extra copy of all your submitted papers for your records.

Proposal for Picture Book Paper:

In preparation for writing your critical paper on a specific picture book, students will write a short proposal for their longer research project. The proposal should be at least 2-pages in length and include a Works Cited section including least **4** possible secondary sources. The proposal needs to conform to the format provide in *The MLA Handbook*. *The MLA Handbook* shows how to cite material and how to create a Works Cited section. The proposal should have a working title, at least 1-page description of the focus of your paper, and a Works Cites page with at least **4 annotated** secondary sources.

Plagiarism/Cheating:

Please consult the Illinois State University policy in the *ISU Undergraduate Catalog* under "Academic Integrity" and chapter 2: "Plagiarism" in *The MLA Handbook*. Plagiarism and cheating are serious academic offenses and may result in failure on an exam, paper, or project and in some cases failure in the course. All written worked submitted for this course must be your own and produced for this specific course.

Grades:

Grades will be based on the following point scale: Grades for papers: A+=100, A=95, A-92, B+= 87, B=85, B-=82, C+=77, C=75, C-=72, D+=67, D=65, D-=62, F=50. For the course grade, the following scale with be used A=90 and above, B=80 and above, C= 70 and above, D=60 and above, F=59 and below. Students earn grades by performance, not negotiation. If you have a question concerning a grade on an assignment or exam, come by my office during my office hours to discuss it. Students should keep all grades assignments. The course grade will be based on the following assignments, which will be weighted as follows:

Children's Film Paper: 10%

Final Exam: 20%

Midterm Exam: 20%

Writing Assignments & Quizzes: 20%

Picture Book Paper: 20%

Class Participation: 10%

Given the unreliability of ReggieNet, I will not be using it for grading this course.

Student Access & Accommodation Services:

Students needing to arrange a reasonable accommodation for a documented disability should contact Student Access and Accommodation Services at 350 Fell, 309-438-5853, or visit StudentAccess.IllinoisState.edu. Students using this service, need to notify me and provide the appropriate credentials. If an exam needs to be sent to the Student Access office students need to notify me a week before the deadline.

Picture Books for Picture Book Paper:

Lewis Carroll's *The Nursery Alice*
 Jean de Brunhoff's *The Story of Babar*
 H.A. Rey and Margaret Rey's *Curious George*
 David Macaulay's *Black and White*
 Willilam Steig's *Sylvester and the Magic Pebble*
 David Weisner's *Tuesday*
 Shel Silverstein's *The Giving Tree*
 Chris Van Allsburg's *Jumanji*
 Eric Carle's *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*
 Robert McCloskey's *Make Way for Ducklings*
 Virginia Lee Burton's *the Little House*
 Julius Lester's *Sam and the Tigers*, illustrated by Jerry Pinkney
 Jacqueline Briggs Martin's *Snowflake Bentley*, illustrated by Mary Azarian
 Dr. Seuss's *The Butter Battle Book*
 John Steptoe's *Stevie*
 Ezra Jack Keats's *The Snowy Day*
 Faith Ringgold's *Tar Beach*
 Justin Richardson & Peter Parnell's *And Tango Makes Three*, illustrated by Henry Cole
 Emily Jenkin's *A Fine Dessert*, illustrated by Sophie Blackall
 Lindsay Mattick's *Finding Winnie*, illustrated by Sophie Blackall

Children's Films for Film Papers:

Mel Stuart's *Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory* (1971)
 John Lasseter's *Toy Story* (1995)
 Brad Bird's *the Iron Giant* (1999)
 Peter Docter's *Monsters, Inc.* (2001)
 Andrew Adamson's *Shrek* (2001)
 Brad Bird's *the Incredibles* (2004)
 Tim Burton's *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* (2005)
 Andrew Stanton's *Finding Nemo* (2003)
 Erin Darell's *Madagascar* (2005)
 Ron Clements's *The Princess and the Frog* (2009)
 John Lasseter's *Cars* (2011)
 Rich Moore's *Wreck-It-Ralph* (2012)
 Chris Buck and Jennifer Lee's *Frozen* (2013)
 Phil Lord's *The Lego Movie* (2014)
 Peter Docter's *Inside Out* (2015)

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Children's Films for Film Papers continued:

Paul King's *Paddington* (2015)

Bryan Howard & Richard Moore's *Zootopia* (2016)

Ron Clement's *Moana* (2016)

Lee Unkrich & Adrain Molina's *Coco* (2017)

Lasse Hallstrom's *a Dog's Purpose* (2017)

Will Gluck's *Peter Rabbit* (2018)

Rob Mashall's *Mary Poppins Returns* (2018)