

## **English 271.1: Literature for Young Children**

Spring 2018 Professor Jan Susina

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

Class Room: Stevenson 221-B

Office: Stevenson 402

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

Office Phone: 438-3739 Email: [jcsusina@ilstu.edu](mailto:jcsusina@ilstu.edu).

Web site: <http://ghostofthetalkingcricket.squarespace.com>

### **Tentative Syllabus:**

Jan. 16 Introduction & Overview to the Course

Jan. 18 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. 23 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. 25 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. 30 English Folk Tales & Fables:

In M.C. Waldrep's *Favorite Fairy Tales*: "Jack and the

Beanstalk," "The Ratcatcher [Pied Piper of Hamelin]," &

"Three Little Pigs"

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

Feb. 1 American 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. 6 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. 8 No class: work on your picture book paper proposal

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

Feb. 15 Perry Nodelman's "The Relationship of Words and Pictures" From *Words About Pictures: The Narrative Art of Children's Picture Books* (website)

Feb. 20 Early Readers: Arnold Lobel's *Frog and Toad Are Friends*

**Proposal for Picture Book Paper, Working Title, Thesis Statement, & Works Cite with four Secondary Sources Due**

Feb. 22 Mother Goose Rhymes: E. F. Bleiler, ed., *Mother Goose's Melodies* (website)

Feb 27 Children's Poetry: Philip Smith, ed., *Favorite Poems of Childhood*

Mar. 1 Children's Music

Mar. 6 Beatrix Potter's *the Tale of Peter Rabbit* in *The Complete Adventures of Peter Rabbit*

Mar. 8 **Midterm Exam**

Mar. 13 **Spring Break**—no class

Mar. 15 **Spring Break**—no class

Mar. 20 Beatrix Potter's *Tale of Benjamin Bunny*, *Tale of the Flopsy Bunnies* & *Tale of Mr. Tod* in *The Complete Adventures of Peter Rabbit*.

Mar. 22 Crockett Johnson's *Harold and the Purple Crayon*

Mar. 26 Lois Lenski Children's Literature Lecture: Professor Lan Dong, University of Illinois - Springfield Evanston Public Library, "Reimagining the Monkey King in Comics: Gene Luen Yang's *American Born Chinese* Stevenson 101, 7--8:15 p.m. **Extra Credit**.

Mar. 27 Alphabet Books, Board Books, Pop-up Books & Golden Books

Mar. 29 Margaret Wise Brown's *Goodnight Moon*

Brown's *Runaway Bunny* and *My World* (Reserve in Milner Library)

Apr. 3 Dr. Seuss's *And To Think I Saw It on Mulberry Street* & *The Lorax* (Reserve in Milner Library)

Apr. 5 Dr. Seuss's *The Cat in the Hat*

## Picture Book Paper Due

- Apr. 10 Maurice Sendak's *Where the Wild Things Are*  
Sendak's *In the Night Kitchen & Outside Over There* (Reserve in Milner Library)
- Apr. 12 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. 17 Information Books: Barbara Kerley's *The Dinosaurs of Waterhouse Hawkins*
- Apr. 19 Chapter Books (Fantasy): A.A. Milne's *Winnie-the-Pooh*
- Apr. 24 Chapter Books (Fantasy): A.A. Milne's *Winnie-the-Pooh*
- Apr. 26 Chapter Books (Realism): Beverly Cleary's *Ramona the Brave*
- May 1 Chapter Books (Realism): Beverly Cleary's *Ramona the Brave*
- May 3 Graphic Novels: Jennifer Holm & Matthew Holm's *Baby Mouse: Our Hero*  
Review for Final Exam
- May 7--11: **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 Evergreen Classics.
- Jon Scieszka & Lane Smith. *The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales*. Puffin.
- Aesop. *The Fables of Aesop*. Joseph Jacobs, editor. Dover Evergreen Classics.
- 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*. Warne.

Margaret Wise Brown. *Goodnight Moon*. Harper Collins.  
 Crockett Johnson. *Harold and the Purple Crayon*. Harper Collins.  
 Dr. Seuss. *The Cat in the Hat*. Random House.  
 Maurice Sendak. *Where the Wild Things Are*. Harper Trophy.  
 Barbara Kerley. *The Dinosaurs of Waterhouse Hawkins*. Scholastic.  
 Ezra Jack Keats. *The Snowy Day*. Puffin.  
 A.A. Milne. *Winnie-the-Pooh*. Puffin.  
 Beverly Cleary. *Ramona the Brave*. Dell Yearling.  
 Jennifer L. Holm & Matthew Holm. *Babymouse: Our Hero*. Random House.  
 Molly Bang. *Picture This: How Pictures Work*. Chronicle Books

**Recommended Text:**

Joseph Gibaldi. *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, 8<sup>th</sup> ed. 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 come 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 2018 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 (three 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 need to conform to the format found in the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*.

### **Picture Book Paper:**

Each student will write a short (eight-ten 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 **four** secondary sources in their Works Cited section. **Only half** of the secondary sources can be electronic sources. Critical papers need to conform to the format that is outlined in the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*. *The MLA Handbook* shows the appropriate method for citing material 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 any other English course you plan to take. The Work Cited section of the picture book paper must have a minimum of **six** secondary sources. Once again, **only half** of those secondary sources can be electronic. Please keep an extra copy of all your submitted papers for your records.

### **Proposal for Picture Book Paper:**

In preparation for writing your critical paper, students will write a proposal for their longer research project. The proposal should be at least 2 pages in length and should include a Works Cited section of of least 4 possible secondary sources. The proposal needs to conform to the format provide in the *MLA Handbook*. *The MLA Handbook* shows how to cited material and how to create a Works Cited section. The proposal should have a working title for the paper, 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=50 and below. Students earn grades by performance, not negotiation. If you have a question concerning a grade on an assignment or exam, please come by my office during my office hourse 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%

Midterm Exam: 20%

Picture Book Paper: 20%

Writing Assignments & Quizzes: 20%

Final Exam: 20%

Class Participation: 10%

Given the unreliability of ReggieNet, I will not be using it for 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](http://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*

Dorothy Kundhardt's *Pat the Bunny*

Gertrude Crampton's *Tootle*, illustrated by Tibor Gregerly

Hardie Gramatky's *Little Toot*

Don Freeman's *Corduroy*

David Macaulay's *Black and White*

Willilam Steig's *Sylvester and the Magic Pebble*

Maurice Sendak's *The Sign on Rosie's Door*

David Weisner's *Tuesday*

Shel Silverstein's *The Giving Tree*

Chris Van Allsburg's *Jumanji*

Eric Carle's *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*

Gene Zion's *Harry the Dirty Dog*, illustrated by Margaret Bloy Graham

Pat Hutchins's *Rosie's Walk*

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

Nancy Willard's *William Blake's Inn*, illustrated Alice and Martin Provensen

Dr. Seuss's *The Butter Battle Book*

Anthony Browne's *Gorilla*

Faith Ringgold's *Tar Beach*

Mo Williams's *Knuffle Bunny: A Cautionary Tale*

Lane Smith's *It's a Book*

Lindsay Mattick's *Finding Winnie*, illustrated by Sophie Blackall

### **Children's Films for Film Papers:**

Clyde Geronimi's *Cinderella* (1950)

Clyde Geronimi's *Lady and the Tramp* (1955)

Robert Stevenson's *Mary Poppins* (1964)

Wolfgang Reitheman's *The Jungle Book* (1967)  
Chris Noonan's *Babe* (1997)  
Brad Bird's *The Iron Giant* (1999)  
Brad Bird's *The Incredibles* (2004)  
John Lasseter's *Toy Story* (1995)  
Tim Burton's *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* (2005)  
Mel Stuart's *Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory* (1971)  
Walt Disney's *Snow White and the Seven Dwarves* (193  
Andrew Stanton's *Finding Nemo* (2003)  
Peter Docter's *Monsters, Inc.* (2001)  
Andrew Adamson's *Shrek* (2001)  
Erin Darell's *Madagascar* (2005)  
Thor Freudenthal's *Hotel for Dogs* (2009)  
Pierre Coffin & Chris Renaud's *Despicable Me* (2010)  
John Lasseter's *Cars* (2011)  
Ron Clements's *The Princess and the Frog* (2009)  
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)  
Steve Martino's *The Peanuts Movie* (2015)  
Bryan Howard & Richard Moore's *Zootopia* (2016)  
Ron Clement's *Moana* (2016)