

## Preliminary Web Course Description

\*Please note: This is a preliminary web course description only. The department reserves the right to change without notice any information in this description. The final, binding course outline will be distributed in the first class of the semester.

### School of English and Theatre Studies

Course Code: ENGL*2740	Course Title: Children's Literature	Date of Offering: <b>FALL 2018</b>
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Course Instructor: J. Schacker	Course Format: lecture (with discussion)
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#### Brief Course Synopsis:

This reading-intensive course serves as an introduction to the critical study of children's literature and other cultural forms created by adults, for children. We will be exploring a range of 20th-c and 21st-century works, but will start the course with a brief introduction to the history of publications aimed at a child audience. Historical and multimedial perspectives will also be woven into the course's units of study on fables and animal tales, fairy tales and fantasy, poetry and picture books. Discussions will examine diverse representations of childhood and adulthood, gender and sexuality, race and class.

As we move our way through course materials, you will be introduced to some key ideas in contemporary cultural and literary studies, experimenting with analytical frameworks in discussions and your own writing (essay exams and an optional essay).

#### Methods of Evaluation and Weight:

*subject to modification based on the scheduling and size of the class in F18*

**Quizzes 30%**

**Midterm exams (2 @ 20% each) 40%**

**essay option:** you will have the option to rework, revise, expand, and polish one of your essay answers from a midterm exam. Students who select this option will have the grade on the optional essay replace that of the original exam answer, with that exam's overall grade adjusted accordingly.

**Final exam 30%**

#### Texts and/or Resources Required (e.g. Internet access, specific textbook title, lab kit, etc.)

[tentative list, subject to change — be sure to check the campus bookstores and the final course outline for the confirmed text choices]

L. Frank Baum, *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* (Dover facsimile ed.)

Neil Gaiman, *Coraline*

Mary Hewitt and Tony DiTerlizzi, *The Spider and the Fly*

Iona Opie and Peter Opie, eds., *The Classic Fairy Tales*

Philippa Pearce, *Tom's Midnight Garden*

Jerry Pinkney, *The Lion and the Mouse*

David A. Robertson and Juliet Flett, *When We Were Alone*

Dr. Seuss, *The Cat in the Hat*

plus selected critical readings and excerpts from collections of poetry for children

Other information that you wish share about the course (optional):

**List the distribution requirements that this course fulfills: fulfills the 20th/21st century distribution requirement for majors and minors in English**