

Revised: Fall 2014
Fall 2015
Fall 2016

ENG 150

Children's Literature

COURSE OUTLINE

Prerequisites:

English 111

Course Description:

VCCS Course Description: Surveys the history of children's literature, considers learning theory and developmental factors influencing reading interests, and uses bibliographic tools in selecting books and materials for recreational interests and educational needs of children. Lecture 3 hours per week. 3 credits.

VWCC Course Description: English 150 will provide an introduction to children's literature, from picture books that are read to children, to the stories and tales that children read on their own in the elementary grades. The course will focus on the origins and development of literature for children; major works, writers, and illustrators in its development; distinctive genres and their characteristics; nature and function of illustrations; social issues addressed in contemporary children's literature; censorship of children's literature; critical approaches to children's literature; and uses of children's literature in the elementary curriculum.

Semester Credits: 3 Lecture Hours: 3

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Course Outcomes:

At the completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- Develop/redevelop an appreciation for children's literature
- Provide insight in choosing literature for children
- Determine the intended audience for children's books
- Define the term "children's literature"
- Determine how to determine what is "good" children's literature
- Discuss issues prevalent in children's literature
- Evaluate the literary merit and the educational value of children's books
- Determine how adults read children's literature
- Discuss censorship of children's literature
- Examine ways of encouraging children to talk about books and to think critically
- Examine the different genres of children's literature
- Discuss the purpose(s) of children's literature
- Write critically about children's literature

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Required Materials:

1. Internet access
2. Blackboard
3. Textbook

Textbook:

1. Selection of children's books and other appropriate materials.

The following supplementary materials are available: None

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Topical Description:

- Define and describe children's literature
- Read and study selected children's literature across the history of the genre
- Read and study selected children's literature across a variety of cultures
- Read and study a variety of selections in the categories of, for example, fables, fairy tales, nursery rhymes, picture books, fantasy, poetry, and realism.

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