



ENGL-270 – Children’s Literature

University Arts and Science

Effective Term & Year: Fall 2025
Course Outline Review Date: 2030-03-01

Program Area: Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences

Description:

In this course, students will learn about the history and development of children’s literature from eighteenth and nineteenth-century fairy tales to modern picture books and middle-grade novels to twenty-first century young adult fiction. Course readings will highlight diverse perspectives and will include BIPOC and LGBTQIA+ content. Students will explore how these diverse narratives contribute to the richness of children’s literature and its role in shaping young readers’ understanding of the world, and develop an appreciation for how narrative works across a variety of forms and genres.

Program Information:

This course is an Arts and Humanities elective for University Arts & Science programs.

Delivery Methods: On-campus (Face-to-Face), Online, Hybrid – On-campus (Face-to-Face) and Online

Credit Type: College of the Rockies Credits

Credits: 3

Course type/s: Humanities

Instructional Activity and Hours:

Activity	Hours
Classroom, Directed Studies or Online Instruction	45

Seminar/Tutorials	
Laboratory/Studio	
Practicum/Field Experience	
Co-op/Work Experience	
Other	
Total	45

Course Requisites:

- Complete 1 of the following
 - Completed at least 1 of the following:
 - ENGL100 – English Composition (3)
 - ENGL101 – Introduction to Poetry and Drama (3)
 - ENGL102 – Introduction to Prose Fiction (3)
 - ENGL102 (recommended)

Prior Learning and Recognition: Yes

Students are able to request formal recognition of their prior learning or experience outside the classroom. Challenge examination, portfolio-assisted assessment, work-based assessment or a combination of assessments that is appropriate to identify, assess, and recognize prior skills, competencies, and knowledge to achieve course credit. Tuition fees apply, refer to Policy 2.5.5 [Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition \(PLAR\)](#) or contact an education advisor for more information.

Course Transfer Credit:

For information about receiving transfer credit for courses taken at either British Columbia or Alberta institutions, please see <https://www.bctransferguide.ca/> or <https://transferalberta.alberta.ca> . For more transfer credit information, please visit <https://www.cotr.bc.ca/Transfer>

All requests for course transfer credit from institutions in British Columbia or elsewhere should go to the College of the Rockies Enrolment Services office.

Textbook Resources:

Textbook selection varies by instructor may change from year to year. Please see the instructor's syllabus or check COTR's online textbook calculator <https://textbook.cotr.bc.ca/> for complete list of the currently required textbooks. At the Course Outline Effective Date the following textbooks were in use:

Dimaline, Cherie. *The Marrow Thieves*. Cormorant Books, 2017.

Hallett, Martin and Barbara Karasek, editors. *Folk and Fairy Tales*. Second Concise Edition. Broadview Press, 2022.

Mbalia, Kwame. *Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky*. Disney/Hyperion, 2019.

Montgomery, Lucy Maude. *Emily of New Moon*. Penguin Random House, 2014.

Potter, Beatrix. *The Tale of Peter Rabbit: The Original and Authorized Edition*. Penguin Young Readers Group, 2010.

Recommended:

Acheson, Katherine O. *Writing Essays About Literature: A Brief Guide for University and College Students*, 2nd ed., Broadview Press, 2021.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon the successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- perform textual analysis that critically considers a text's historical and cultural contexts, its use of genre, its form and style, and its enculturation goals;
 - demonstrate the ability to approach children's literature from various critical viewpoints such as gender, sexuality, disability, class, and race (including Indigenous perspectives), recognizing the depth and cultural significance of literature for children across cultures;
 - apply a reflective and self-aware reading and writing practice that enhances critical thinking and personal engagement with texts;
 - demonstrate proficient use of library resources, integration of secondary material, and documentation in an appropriate citation style, developing research skills aimed at scholarly contribution; and
 - produce well-organized texts using a university-level writing process, employing methods appropriate to discipline, message, and context.
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Course Topics:

Course topics will vary by instructor and term. Students should refer to the instructor's syllabus for current course topics.

As of the Course Outline Effective Date, the course topics may include, but are not limited to,

- Introduction to Children's Literature and Narratology: Folklore and Fairy Tales
- Introduction to Picture Books and Analyzing Illustrations
- Constructing (Canadian) Girlhood
- Speculative Fiction and Indigenous Futurity
- Diasporic Literature and Identities

See instructor's syllabus for the detailed outline of weekly readings, activities and assignments.

Evaluation and Assessments

Assessment Type: On-Campus (face-to-face) and Online, or Hybrid

Assessment Type	% of Total Grade
Participation	5%
Reading Journal	15%
Picture Book Analysis	20%
Final Research Project Proposal	5%
Final Research Project	30%
Final Exam	25%
Total	100%

Grade Scheme

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D	F
>=90	89-85	84-80	79-76	75-72	71-68	67-64	63-60	59-55	54-50	<50

Pass requirements: None

Evaluation Notes: A grade of "D" grants credit, but may not be sufficient as a prerequisite for sequential courses.

Exam Attendance:

Students must attend all scheduled exams at the appointed time and place. Instructors may approve an alternate exam to accommodate an illness or personal crisis. Department heads will consider other written requests. Any student who misses a scheduled exam without prior approval will receive a "0" on the exam.

Academic Policies:

College of the Rockies policies related to courses can be found at <https://cotr.bc.ca/about-us/college-policies/> and include the following:

- Policy 2.1.4 Course Audit
 - Policy 2.4.1 Credential Framework
 - Policy 2.4.3 Students with Documented Disabilities
 - Policy 2.4.4 Student Rights, Responsibilities and Conduct
 - Policy 2.4.8 Academic Performance
 - Policy 2.4.9 Student Feedback and Concerns
 - Policy 2.4.11 Storage of Academic Works
 - Policy 2.5.3 Student Appeal
 - Policy 2.5.5 Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)
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Course Changes:

The College of the Rockies updates course outlines regularly to meet changing educational, employment and marketing needs. The instructor will notify students in writing of any updates to this outline during the semester. The instructor reserves the right to revise, add or delete material while meeting the learning outcomes of this course outline.