
Course Syllabus

**Description:** INF 322T – The course is intended as a survey that deals with the selection, evaluation, and utilization of literary materials for children from preschool through middle school age (1-13 years of age). It is expected that students read literary selections for children in this age range. Lists will be provided throughout the course.

**Course Objectives:**

1. To identify and understand the values of using literature with children
2. To identify the states in language, cognitive, social, and personality development and to recommend appropriate literature
3. To identify and to apply evaluative criteria for plot development, characterization, setting, theme, style and point of view; to develop instructional approaches that reach plot development, characterization, setting, theme, style, and point of view
4. To evaluate picture books and to describe strategies for sharing picture books with children
5. To identify characteristics of folktales, myths, fables, and legends; to develop strategies from different countries and for investigating folktales from a single country
6. To evaluate modern fantasy according to point of view, setting, characterization, and theme; to develop strategies for understanding a appreciating modern fantasy
7. To identify elements in poetry and to demonstrate methods for involving children in poetry
To evaluate contemporary realistic fiction; to develop strategies for using contemporary realistic fiction in the classroom

To list criteria for evaluating historical fiction and to understand the chronological order of events in the historical time line; to analyze similarities and differences between themes developed during different time periods in history; to develop strategies for using historical fiction in the classroom

To evaluate multicultural literature and to develop strategies for using multicultural literature

To list criteria for evaluating biography and informational books and to describe how nonfictional informational books may be utilized with children

Course Schedule

July 16, Reading List 1
Introduction: Course requirements
Lecture 1
Assignment: Lukens: Chapter 1 pp. 1-9
Media: A selection from the following: “Chicka Chicka Boom Boom,”

7/17
Lecture 2
Assignment: Lukens
Evaluating and Selecting Literature for Children:
Chapter 3: Point of View pp. 60-62
Chapter 3: Theme pp. 57-59
Chapter 3: Setting pp. 59-60
Chapter 5: Character pp. 113-118
Chapter 6: Plot pp. 140-144,
Chapter 6: Plot pp. 159-160
Chapter 6: Conflict pp. 146-150
Chapter 7 Setting pp. 166-180
Chapter 8 : Point of View pp. 191-205
Be prepared to discuss: Sarah, Plain and Tall

7/18
Lecture 3: The History of Children’s Literature
Media: A selection from the following: “Millions of Cats,” “Tuesday”
Be prepared to discuss: Midwife’s Apprentice

7/23
Lecture 4: Illustrations in Children’s Books:
Lukens: pp 48-50
Media: A selection from the following: “Owl Moon,” “Officer Buckle and Gloria,”
Discuss: *Holes*

7/24
Exam I
12-2:00 pm
Please leave an empty seat between you and the next person. Picture ID is required. Turn in both your scantron and copy of the test. **If you are more than 15 minutes late, you cannot take the exam. Be on time.**
Scantron will be provided.

7/25, Reading List II
Lecture 5 “Picture Books”
Lukens: Chapter 3, pp. 46-65
Media: “William Wegman’s Mother Goose”
Discuss: *The Giver*

7/30
Lecture 6: Traditional Literature
Lukens: Chapter 4, pp. 76-82
Media: A selection from the following: “Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People’s Ears,”
“Mufaro’s Beautiful Daughters”
Discuss: *Miss Peregrine’s Home for Peculiar Children*

7/31
Lecture 7: Modern Fantasy
Lukens: Chapter 4, pp. 83-87
Media: A selection from the following: “A Story, A Story”; “The Village of Round and Square Houses,”

8/1
Lecture 8: Poetry
Lukens: Chapter 11, pp. 258-275
Media: A selection from the following: “Harlem”
Discuss: *The Lightning Thief*

8/6
Exam II
12-2:00 pm
Please leave an empty seat between you and the next person. Picture ID is required. Turn in both your scantron and copy of the test. **If you are more than 15 minutes late, you cannot take the exam. Be on time.**

Scantron will be provided.

8/7
Reading List 3
Lecture 9 Contemporary Realistic Fiction,
Lukens, pp. 19-22, Censorship
8/8
Contemporary Realistic Fiction
Lukens : Chapter 4, pp. 88-92
Media: A selection from the following: “Amazing Grace”
Discuss: *Number the Stars*

8/13
Lecture 10 Historical Fiction
Lukens: Chapter 12, pp. 282-296
Media: A selection from the following: “Molly’s Pilgrim”
Discuss: *Esperanza Rising*

8/14
Lecture 11 /biographies and Nonfiction
Lukens Chapter 13, pp. 304-317
Media: A selection from the following Discuss: *Esperanza Rising*
Discuss: *A Year Down Yonder*

8/15
Exam III

12-2:00 pm
Please leave an empty seat between you and the next person. Picture ID is required. Turn in both your scantron and copy of the test. **If you are more than 15 minutes late, you cannot take the exam. Be on time.**
Scantron will be provided.

8/19 (Monday, 9-12 noon)
Final: Optional, unless you missed one previous exam. Final is a comprehensive exam with 100 objective questions. Remember to read *Julie of the Wolves*. **If you are more than 15 minutes late, you cannot take the exam. Be on time.**

All students taking the Final will take it between 9-12 pm. in UTC 2.102A. Finals will not be given early (UT Policy).
**Course Requirements**

**Requirements:** There will be 3 examinations and one optional comprehensive final administered in class. **You must take 3 out of 4 exams. If you do not take 3 exams, your total points will be divided by 4.** The questions for the exams will be taken from the text, materials discussed or viewed in class, assigned readings, and reading of children’s books as listed and given throughout the course. Books I discuss in class can also be on the exams even though they may not be in the required list of readings.

**Exams:** The questions on the 3 exams and the final will be objective – either matching or multiple choice. Scantrons will be provided. After exam grades have been posted, you may see your exam answers during office hours or by appointment. **You can see your exam, but you cannot copy any of the questions.** Sharing questions you note for yourself with others is considered cheating, and students caught may be suspended from the university and given an automatic F in class. Inquiries about exam grades must be made within one week after the grades have been posted.

University of Texas rules in regard to academic dishonesty are enforced in this class. Please do not plagiarize, as instances of plagiarism will result in an automatic F (fail) for the entire course. Plagiarism is defined here: [http://www.plagiarism.org/learning_center/what_is_plagiarism.html](http://www.plagiarism.org/learning_center/what_is_plagiarism.html)

Make-up exams are not given. If you miss an exam, then you will be required to take the comprehensive exam on **Aug. 19, 2013.** If you miss two exams, you will automatically get a zero for the second exam and will be required to take the final or drop the course.

**STATEMENT CONCERNING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

Students with disabilities may request appropriate academic accommodations from the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, Services for Students with Disabilities, 512-471-6259. If you have a letter from the office of the Dean of Students which entitles you to special exam taking options, efforts will be made to accommodate your needs.

If you have a letter from the office of the Dean of Students, which entitles you to special exam taking options, effort will be made to accommodate your needs. University of Texas rules in regard to academic dishonesty are enforced in this class. [http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/acadint_reportingprocedures.php](http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/acadint_reportingprocedures.php) [http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/acint_student.php](http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/acint_student.php)

Exam Format: Exams may range from 60 to 100 objective questions and the final is comprehensive and is 100 questions long. When you come in, please leave an empty seat between you and the next person. **No headsets allowed. Please put cell phones away and turn them off.** Exams will not be handed out until everyone is seated. You will turn in both the scantron and the exam. **If you are more than 15 minutes late, you cannot take the exam. Be on time. Have your picture ID when you turn in your exam.**
Consult the Class Calendar for your three exam times. Exam times cannot be changed unless you have a letter from the Office of the Dean of Students or you have made special arrangements.

**Please do not text or use your phones during lecture.** Put them on silent or vibrate. You may use your computers to take notes, but it is not appropriate to use it for social media or browsing the web during lecture. **Do that outside of class.** You may be asked to put your computer away if you get caught using it for other things than notes. It is distracting for other students when they are trying to take notes.

Grading: Grades are based on 3 exams, and one optional final (if you choose to take it) and an optional one point extra credit paper. Grading scale for this class will be as follows: (I use percentile grades, not raw scores.)

- A = 90-100%
- B = 80-89%
- C = 70-79%
- D = 60-69%
- F = Below 60%

Students taking the class CR/F must earn at least a 60% average to earn a CR. (Graduate students must earn at least a 70% average to earn CR.) Grades are not rounded up. For example an 89.999 requires an extra credit paper to become an “A”. The grade of X (incomplete) will be given only in cases of emergencies that have been reported at the time of the emergency.

Extra Credit: Any student who successfully completes one and only one of the choices for extra credit assignments will receive one point extra credit (one point added to class average). Extra credit options will be discussed in class.

**CHAPTER BOOKS**

**EXAM I**

*Sarah Plain and Tall* by Patricia McLachlan  
*The Midwife’s Apprentice* by Karen Cushman  
*Holes* – Lois Sachar

**EXAM II**

*The Giver* – Lois Lowry  
*Miss Peregrine’s Home for Peculiar Children* - Ransom Riggs  
*The Lightning Thief* – Rick Riordan

**EXAM III**
Esperanza Rising - Pam Munoz Ryan
Number the Stars - Lois Lowry
A Year Down Yonder – Richard Peck

FINAL EXAM
Julie of the Wolves - Jean Craighead George
And all other books from previous exams

Extra Credit Options
Children’s Literature, 322T
Dr. Veronica Pro Covington

EXTRA CREDIT IS DUE BY 12 Noon on Aug. 15, 2012

You may turn in extra credit in class anytime during the semester or in my box in 1616 Guadalupe on the 5th floor. NO LATE PAPERS WILL BE ACCEPTED. (I WILL NOT ACCEPT PAPERS DURING OR AFTER THE FINAL.)

EXTRA CREDIT OPTION 1

Any student completing a one and a half to two page double-spaced and word-processed essay and critique if a Newbery Award book will receive 1 point added to their final average. (Font size 12). Please use the following titles listed by the beginning letter of your last name.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Letter of Last Name</th>
<th>Newbery Award Books or other award books</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A - C</td>
<td>A Year Down Yonder</td>
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<tr>
<td>D-F</td>
<td>Esperanza Rising</td>
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<td>G - I</td>
<td>Holes</td>
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<td>J - L</td>
<td>Midwife’s Apprentice</td>
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<td>Miss Peregrine’s Home for Peculiar Children</td>
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<td>S – U</td>
<td>Number the Stars</td>
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<tr>
<td>V - Z</td>
<td>The Lightning Thief</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
What you might want to consider in crafting your essay:

1. Comparison and contrast. (to another Newbery Award book)
2. You must include a summary of a review from one journal and site it. (Ex. The Horn Book, School Library Journal)
3. Ways the book could be of value or use to children. (Or of no value or use if this is your opinion.)
4. What do YOU think about the book?
5. You must include the year that the books got the Newbery Award and why you think it deserved it or why you think it should not have gotten the award.
6. Anything else that you see relevant to your essay.

EXTRA CREDIT OPTION 2

Prepare a power point presentation on any Newbery author or Caldecott illustrator (Please check on line at the ALA list of Newbery and Caldecott awards to see if your author or illustrator qualifies.). The presentation must include:

Biographical information
Picture or pictures of the author or illustrator.
List of books author has written or illustrator has illustrated.
Pictures of the covers of at least 3 books and one has to be the one that won the award.
A minimum of 6 slides of content is required.(This does not include the title or the final reference page.)

Please let me know as soon as possible is you are planning to do this project so I can place your author or illustrator on a list of authors or illustrators taken. I do not want duplicates.
You can submit your project on-line, by emailing it to me or hand in a disk or CD.