ENGLISH 208A  FORMS OF FANTASY

Fall 1995
TR 2:30-4:00
Arts Lecture 207

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Office Hours: TR 4-5:00
or by appointment

English 208A will consider the nature of fantasy written for adults: what does it include? what can it do? The course will equip students with historical and literary tools that will assist them in reading fantasy critically and sensitively. Classes will consist of lecture and discussion.

Schedule and Texts:

September 12 Introduction
14-21 Readings on Reserve (see over)
26-28 Phantastes, George MacDonald
October 3-5 The Hobbit, J.R.R. Tolkien
10-12 All Hallows' Eve, Charles Williams
17-19 Till We Have Faces, C.S. Lewis
First paper due Oct. 17
24-26 A Wizard of Earthsea, Ursula LeGuin
31 Return papers, essay-writing skills, review

November 2 Midterm test
7 Introduction to "modern" fantasy
Reserve readings to be announced
9-14 The Last Unicorn, Peter S. Beagle
16-21 Grendel, John Gardner
23-28 The Princess Bride, William Goldman
Second paper due Nov. 23
30 Return papers, review

Assignments:

First Essay  due Oct.17, 500-750 words, worth 15%
Midterm test November 2, worth 20%
Second Essay due November 23, 1500 words, worth 30%
Final Exam in scheduled exam period, worth 35%

Essays are due on the assigned dates; papers will lose 10% for every day they are late. Be aware of the University of Waterloo's policy regarding plagiarism, "the act of presenting the ideas, words, or other intellectual property of another as one's own." Essay topics and use of external sources will be discussed in class and on hand-outs to come.
Readings on reserve in the Dana Porter Library, 1st floor, at the reserve desk

from *Fantastic Worlds*, ed. Eric Rabkin

"The Myth of Narcissus" p. 66
"The Myth of Philomela" p. 72
"Little Red Cap" p. 96
"Hansel and Gretel" p. 104
"Golden Wings" p. 294
"The Oval Portrait" p. 190
"The Black Cat" p. 247
"The Moonlit Road" p. 274

from *The Odyssey*, by Homer, trans. E.V. Rieu
Book IX, "The Cyclops" pp. 139-54

from *Beowulf*, trans. Keith Thomas
"chapters" 21-30 pp. 44-56

from *Tree and Leaf*, Tolkien
"Essay on Fairy Stories"