ENGLISH 208A  FORMS OF FANTASY

Winter 1996
TR 2:30-4:00
Hagey Hall 150

Karen Simons
PAS 1064 ext 2685
Office Hours: TR 1:30-2:30
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:

January
  7  Introduction
  9-16  Readings on Reserve (see over)
  21-23  Phantastes, George MacDonald
  28-30  The Hobbit, J.R.R. Tolkien

February
  4-6  All Hallows' Eve, Charles Williams
  11-13  Till We Have Faces, C.S. Lewis
          First paper due Feb. 11
  18-20  READING WEEK
  25  Return papers, discuss essay writing skills
  27  Catch up/ review

March
  4-6  A Wizard of Earthsea, Ursula LeGuin
  11-13  The Last Unicorn, Peter S. Beagle
  18-20  Grendel, John Gardner
  25-27  The Princess Bride, William Goldman
          Second paper due Mar. 25

April
  1  Catch up, review (if time), return papers
  3  CLASS CANCELLED
  8  If needed, catch up and review

Assignments:

In-class short answers, best four out of six, worth 20%
First Essay  due Feb.11, 500-750 words, worth 15%
Second Essay  due March 25, 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.
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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
"The Oval Portrait" p. 190
"The Moonlit Road" p. 274

from *English Poetry of the Nineteenth Century*

"The Rime of the Ancient Mariner" p. 56
"Christabel" p. 64
"The Lady of Shalott" p. 301


BOOK ONE, chps. 19-20
BOOK TWO, chps. 12-14
BOOK THREE, chp. 5

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" pp.43-63