ENGLISH 208C
Children's Literature

Fall 1989
Mrs. K. McArthur

READING SCHEDULE

Sept.
14 Introduction
21 Grimm's Selected Tales
28 Carroll Alice in Wonderland and Through the Looking Glass

Oct.
5 Kipling The Jungle Book
12 Twain Huck Finn first paper due
19 Montgomery Anne of Green Gables
26 Mid Term Exam and Grahame Wind in the Willows

Nov.
2 Barrie Peter Pan
9 White Sword in the Stone
16 Le Guin A Wizard of Earthsea second paper due
23 White Charlotte's Web / Babbitt Tuck Everlasting
30 Raskin Figgs and Phantoms

ASSIGNMENTS:

ESSAYS

(1) On one author: 750 words (3 typed pages); worth 15%; due Oct. 12/89.
(2) On two or more authors; 1500 words (6 typed pages); worth 30%; due Nov. 16/89.

EXAMINATIONS

(1) Mid-term examination: one hour, Oct. 26/89, worth 15%.
(2) Final: Three hours, worth 40%.

READINGS FROM GRIMM'S Selected Tales
2. "Rumpelstiltskin"
3. "Hansel and Gretel"
4. "Little Redcape"
5. "Rapunzel"
6. "Briar Rose"
7. "Snowwhite"
8. "The Juniper Tree"
31. "Ashiepattle"
32. "Many Pelts"
36. "The Goose Girl"
COURSE DESCRIPTION

1. Children's Literature (208C) is not a course in child psychology or a guide to the selection of books for young readers. Although we will always be mindful of the intended audience, we will examine books written for children as a literary genre. The texts selected are landmarks in the field of literature as a whole, and we shall discuss both the historical development of children's literature and the internal structure of this particular branch of the literary tree. We begin with a central artifact in the development of children's literature, Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm's Selected Tales (pub. 1823 in English), where the oral tradition of folk tales or household tales appears in printed form, and then pick up with the tradition of literary entertainment and education for children largely inaugurated by Lewis Carroll in the Alice books (1865, 1871).

2. The essays will be marked for the quality of literary interpretation and of writing. The examinations will be marked for the knowledge of the texts displayed and for the ability to find connections between them.

3. Students must have the Penguin Classic Selected Tales by Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm. Other collections of folk or fairy tales may have stories with the same or similar titles, but they will be very different in content.