ENGLISH 208C
CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

Mrs. K. McArthur
Office Hours: HH 266 Mon. 10:30-12:30
Tues. 11:30-12:30
Wed. 10:30-12:30
6:00-6:45

Reading Schedule:

September
13 Introduction
20 Grimms' Selected Tales
27 Carroll Alice in Wonderland and Through the Looking Glass

October
4 Kipling The Jungle Book
11 Twain Huck Finn FIRST ESSAY DUE
18 Montgomery Anne of Green Gables
25 Grahame Wind in the Willows

November
1 Barrie Peter Pan TERM TEST
8 White Sword in the Stone
15 Leguin A Wizard of Earthsea SECOND ESSAY DUE
22 White Charlotte's Web, Babbitt Tuck Everlasting
29 Raskin Figgs and Phantoms
Review and Exam Preparation

Assignments:

ESSAYS: First Essay, 750 words, 2-3 typed pages, due October 11, 1995, worth 15%.
Second Essay, 1500 words, 5-6 typed pages, due November 15, 1995, worth 30%.

EXAMINATIONS: Term Test, November 1, 1995, one hour, worth 15%
Final Examination, three hours, worth 40%

READINGS from Grimms' Selected Tales:
2. "Rumplestiltskin"
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"
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 be always 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 formal essay will be marked for the quality of literary interpretation and of writing. The examination 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.