ENGLISH 208C 02
CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

Mrs. K. McArthur
Office Hours: Tues./Thurs. 12:30 - 2:00pm

Spring 1997

Schedule:
May
5, 7 Introduction
12, 14, 21 Grimms' Selected Tales
19 Holiday
26, 28 Carroll Alice in Wonderland and Through the Looking Glass

June
2, 4 Kipling The Jungle Book
9, 11 Twain Huck Finn
11 FIRST ESSAY DUE
16, 18 Montgomery Anne of Green Gables
23, 25 Grahame Wind in the Willows
30 Barrie Peter Pan

July
2 Barrie Peter Pan
7 TERM TEST
9, 14 White Sword in the Stone
16, 21 LeGuin A Wizard of Earthsea
21 SECOND ESSAY DUE
23, 28 White Charlotte's Web, Babbitt Tuck Everlasting
30 Raskin Figgs and Phantoms
Review and Exam Preparation

Assignments:
ESSAYS: First Essay, 750 words, 2-3 typed pages, due June 11, 1997, worth 10%
Second Essay, 1500 words, 5-6 typed pages, due July 21, 1997, worth 30%
EXAMINATIONS: Term Test, July 7, 1997, one hour, worth 20%
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. "Ashieattle"
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 essays 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.