ENGLISH 208C 02
CHILDREN’S LITERATURE

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Office Hours: Mondays: 12:30-2:30pm, 6:00-6:45pm
Wednesdays: 11:00-12:00 am

Spring 1999

Schedule and required texts:

May
3  Introduction
10  Grimm's Selected Tales
17  Carroll Alice in Wonderland and Through the Looking Glass
24  HOLIDAY
31  Twain Huck Finn

June
7  Twain Huck Finn, Kipling The Jungle Book
14  Montgomery Anne of Green Gables
21  Grahame Wind in the Willows
FIRST ESSAY DUE
28  Barrie Peter Pan

July
5  White Sword in the Stone
12  Leguin A Wizard of Earthsea, TERM TEST
19  White Charlotte's Web, Babbitt Tuck Everlasting
SECOND ESSAY DUE
26  Raskin Figgs and Phantoms
Review and Exam Preparation

Recommended text:
(Royalties from the purchase of this book go to an English Scholarship Fund)

Assignments:

ESSAYS:
Second Essay, 1500 words, 5-6 typed pages, due July 19, 1998, worth 35%.

EXAMINATIONS:
Term Test, July 12, 1998, one hour, worth 15%
Final Examination, three hours, worth 35%

READINGS from Grimm’s Selected Tales:
2. "Rumplestiltskin"  7. "Snowwhite"
5. "Rapunzel"  32. "Many Pelts"
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.