ENGLISH 217 - CANADIAN CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

Course Outline

Instructor: Ted McGee ......................................................... Fall, 1999
Room: 310 St. Jerome's College; 269 Hagey Hall
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This course deals with 19th- and 20th-century Canadian literature for children. The course aims to provide a sense of some of the abiding preoccupations, the formal variety, the collaboration of writers and illustrators, and the social projects taken up by Canadian literature for children.

READINGS:

This year the readings have been limited to prose and poetry, but students who wish to meet course requirements by studying Canadian drama for children may do so (provided that the topic and the materials for consideration are decided upon in consultation with the instructor).

The following works, which will be studied in the order listed, are the required readings of the course:

B.P. Nichol, Once: A Lullaby
Michael Kusugak, Hide 'n Sneak
* Catherine Parr Traill, Canadian Crusoes (excerpt)
Dennis Lee, The Ice Cream Store
Robert Munsch, Thomas's Snowsuit
----------, The Paper Bag Princess
----------, Love You Forever
Ann Blades, Mary of Mile 18
Roch Carrier, The Hockey Sweater
Tim Wynne-Jones, Zoom At Sea
Mordecai Richler, Jacob Two-Two Meets the Hooded Fang
Kit Pearson, A Handful of Time
----------, Looking at the Moon
*Marshall Saunders, Beautiful Joe (excerpt)
Farley Mowat, Lost in the Barrens
Jean Little, Mama's Gonna Buy You a Mockingbird
Gordon Korman, This Can't Be Happening at MacDonald Hall
Lucy Maud Montgomery, Emily of New Moon
Kevin Major, Hold Fast

* On reserve at SJC Library

over please . . .
RECOMMENDED BOOKS:

The New Republic of Childhood by S. Egoff and J. Saltman, for historical background, and The Little, Brown Compact Handbook by M. McArthur and J.E. Aaron for writing basics, essay form, and documentation. The major journal in the field is Canadian Children's Literature (CCL), available in the Dana Porter Library and on reserve at St. Jerome's Library.

WRITING REQUIREMENTS:

The grade for this course will be based on four pieces of writing. The writing should be clear, coherent, and grammatically flawless. The writings and the distribution of grade points for this course are as follows:

1. Picture Book Review/Critique - 10% - Due: October 1, 1999

2. In-class Mid-term Test - 22 October - 20%

3. Research essay/Creative Project: 12-15 pages; typed, double-spaced - Due: 19 November. Possible topics will be distributed at the end of the drop/add period - 40%

4. Final examination: 2 hours in duration; scheduled by the Registrar's Office for some time during the official UW examination period; requiring knowledge of the course work, including 19th- and 20-century works, book for young children and books for adolescents. Be sure to check the final examination timetable for the date and time of the examination; the place will be announced in class. 35%

NOTEWORTHY DATES:

13 September Lectures begin
27 September Last day to add courses
1 October Review Due
4 October Last day to drop courses
11 October Thanksgiving - University closed
13 October Kit Pearson visit
22 October Mid-term test
19 November Essay due
6 December Lectures end