



Rowan College
at
BURLINGTON COUNTY

LITERATURE

CODE: LIT 215

TITLE: Introduction to Children's Literature

DIVISION: Liberal Arts

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This survey course introduces the history, psychology, and literary techniques of quality children's literature. It emphasizes the evaluation and analysis of children's literature to assess what makes a quality piece of literature.

PREREQUISITE: ENG 102

CREDITS: 3 cr.

REQUIRED MATERIALS (CHECK BOOKSTORE FOR LATEST EDITION):

Click on the bookstore for the supplies which you are attending each class.

Rcbc.edu/bookstore

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- To exhibit critical thinking and evaluation skills in relationship to children's literature.
- To write a clearly evaluative short essay focusing on the key elements of a work of children's literature to define what makes it successful or unsuccessful
- To be able to define the key elements of the different types of children's literature such as picture book, alphabet book, counting book, concept book, folklore, traditional literature, storytelling, fantasy, modern fiction, multi-ethnic literature, historical fiction, biography, and informational book.
- To research a specific author's books and be able to state a thesis, develop the supporting documentation, and draw conclusions based on the documentation.
- To demonstrate an appreciation of the best of children's literature and show how to differentiate between a satisfactory children's book and literature.
- To define the major stages of child development and to identify the attributes of children at each stage so that there is an understanding of children's choices for reading

GENERAL EDUCATION OUTCOMES IN THIS COURSE:

Written and Oral Communication: Communication	* Students will logically and persuasively support their points of view or findings. * Students will communicate meaningfully with a chosen audience while demonstrating critical thought. * Students will conduct investigative research which demonstrates academic integrity, originality, depth of thought, and mastery of an approved style of source documentation.
Humanistic Perspective: Humanities LITERATURE	* Students will recognize and assess the contributions of people from various nations and/or cultures. * Students will analyze the changing significance of social constructions of religion, race, class, and/or gender in cultural artifacts (music, art, literature) throughout time.
Global and Cultural Awareness: Diversity	* Students will be able to compare and contrast cultural norms from diverse populations. * Students will be able to explain how communication and culture are interrelated. * Students will be able to examine how multicultural societies and peoples help engender a richer understanding of diverse life experiences.

CORE COURSE CONTENT:

- Changing Views of Children's Literature
- Using Literary Elements With Children
- History of Children's Literature
- Books for the Very Young
- Books for Primary Readers
- Art of Illustration
- Experiencing Literature Through Storytelling: Fables, Myths and Legends
- Books for Intermediate Readers
- Modern Fantasy
- Historical Fiction
- Folklore

- Biography
- Informational Books
- Modern Fiction
- Multi-Ethnic Literature

COURSE ACTIVITIES:

Course activities vary from course to course and instructor to instructor. Below is a listing of some of the activities students can anticipate in this course:

- ▶ Writing assignments: students will analyze current issues in the field using current articles from the popular press as well as library research including electronic resources databases.
- ▶ Speaking assignments: students will present research individually or in groups using current technology to support the presentation (e.g., PowerPoint presentation); students will participate in discussions and debates related to the topics in the lessons. Discussions may also focus on cross-cultural and legal-ethical dilemmas as they relate to the course content.
- ▶ Simulation activities: Trends and issues will analyzed for their ethical as well as social or legal significance. Students might role-play common situations for classmates to analyze. Current news articles may be used to generate discussion.
- ▶ Case Studies: Complex situations and scenarios will be analyzed in cooperative group settings or as homework assignments.
- ▶ Lectures: This format will include question and answer sessions to provide interactivity between students and instructor.
- ▶ Speakers: Representatives from various related fields may be invited to speak.
- ▶ Videos: Related topics will provide impetus for discussion.

EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY:

Rowan College at Burlington County advocates a technology enhanced teaching and learning environment. Advanced technological tools may be used in any course section to facilitate instruction. Many of our sections are web-enhanced, which means that some of your work will be submitted or completed online. Web enhancements may include on-line materials, grade books, testing and quizzes and assignment submission. Many students enjoy the flexibility and convenience that these online enhancements have provided, however if you have concerns about the technology involved, please speak to your instructor immediately.

STUDENT EVALUATIONS:

The student will be evaluated on the degree to which student learning outcomes are achieved. A variety of methods may be used such as tests, quizzes, class participation, projects, homework assignments, presentations, etc.

See individual instructor's course handouts for grading system and criteria (point value for each assessment component in course, e.g. tests, papers, presentations, attendance etc.), number of papers and examinations required in the course, and testing policy including make ups and/or retests.

GRADING STANDARD:

- A Mastery of essential elements and related concepts, plus demonstrated excellence or originality.
- B+ Mastery of essential elements and related concepts, showing higher level understanding.
- B Mastery of essential elements and related concepts.
- C+ Above average knowledge of essential elements and related concepts.
- C Acceptable knowledge of essential elements and related concepts.
- D Minimal knowledge of related concepts.
- F Unsatisfactory progress. This grade may also be assigned in cases of academic misconduct, such as cheating or plagiarism, and/or excessive absences.

For other grades, see the current ROWAN COLLEGE AT BURLINGTON COUNTY catalog.

COLLEGE POLICIES:

The current college catalog and student handbook are important documents for understanding your rights and responsibilities as a student in the RCBC classroom. Please read your catalog and handbook as they supplement this syllabus, particularly for information regarding:

- ▶ Academic Integrity Code
- ▶ Student Conduct Code
- ▶ Student Grade Appeal Process

OFFICE OF STUDENT SUPPORT AND DISABILITIES SERVICES:

RCBC welcomes students with disabilities into the college's educational programs. Access to accommodations and support services for students with learning and other disabilities is facilitated by staff in the Office of Student Support (OSS). In order to

receive accommodations, a student must contact the OSS, self-identify as having a disability, provide appropriate documentation, and participate in an intake appointment. If the documentation supports the request for reasonable accommodations, the OSS will provide the student with an Accommodation Plan to give to instructors. Contact the Office of Student Support at 609-894-9311, ext. 1208 or visit the website at: www.rcbc.edu/studentssupport

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT/LABS:

RCBC provides academic advising, student support personal counseling, transfer advising, and special accommodations for individuals with disabilities free to all students through the Division of Student Services. For more information about any of these services, visit the Laurel Hall on the Mt. Laurel Campus, or call (609) 894-9311 or (856) 222-9311, then dial the desired extension:

- Ext. 1557 Academic Advisement and Counseling
- Ext. 1803 Special Populations
- Ext. 2737 Transfer Center

Or visit the following websites:

Academic Advising www.rcbc.edu/advising
Student Support Counseling www.rcbc.edu/counseling
Transfer Center www.rcbc.edu/transfer

RCBC offers a free tutoring for all currently enrolled students. For more information regarding The Tutoring Center call Extension 1495 at (609) 894-9311 or (856) 222-9311 or visit the Tutoring Center Website at www.rcbc.edu/tutoring

Annual Review 2017
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