



AMBROSE
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

EN 240 Children's Literature (3)

Fall 2012

Dr. Tim Heath

Office: L2065

Class Times: 2:30 – 3:45 T/Th

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Office Phone: 403-410-2000 ext. 5904

Class Location: Room A2131

Office Hours: /Th 9:45 to 11:00; W/F 11:00 to 12:00 or by appointment

Required Texts

<i>Charlotte's Web</i> (1952)	White, E.B.	Harper Trophy
<i>The Hobbit</i> (1937)	Tolkien, J.R.R.	Harper Collins
<i>Treasure Island</i> (1883)	R.L. Stevenson	Penguin
<i>The Norton Anthology of Children's Literature</i>	Zipes, Jack, et al. eds.	Norton
<i>The Paper Bag Princess</i> (1980)	Munch, Robert	Annick
<i>The Velveteen Rabbit</i> (1922)	Williams, Margery	Avon Reissue/Doubleday

Note: the instructor will supplement the text with class handouts as needed.

Course Description

English 240 offers an introduction to and study of the major genres in children's literature: folktales, hero tales, myths, literary folktales, fantastic and realistic prose fiction to name the key forms. The course provides students with a critical method of reading and interpreting children's literature. In addition, to aid in our consideration of the major themes and issues at work in children's literature we will examine historical and current concepts of the child and childhood.

Course Requirements

1. Students should do all the prescribed readings before class and be prepared to participate in class discussion. I look forward to lively discussions.
2. Assignments are due at the beginning of class on the dates specified. I do not grant extensions without prior permission or a letter from the Registrar or Dean of Arts and Science. Late papers drop one third of a grade per day. For example, if an A- paper is due at 2:30 p.m. on Thursday but is submitted at 3:00 p.m. on Thursday it will receive a

B+. By Friday the same paper will earn a B. I will not accept papers more than two class periods late.

3. Students are required to keep an extra copy of each assignment (digital, hard copy, or both). Students are advised to keep back-up versions of essays while composing and completing them. Translation: technical problems should not be cited as an excuse for late, missing, or garbled work.
4. To receive a passing grade in the course, all assignments must be submitted to the instructor.
5. Missed exams will only be made up if supported by the appropriate documentation (for example, a doctor's note).
6. Plagiarism in any of its forms will not be tolerated. All instances of plagiarism will be forwarded to the Academic Dean.
7. Students may not submit work done for another class.
8. The student is responsible for all the information given in class, and also for any changes to the syllabus announced in class.
9. Regular attendance and punctuality are expected. More than three (3) unexcused class absences will reduce participation grades by two percentage points. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to borrow notes from a fellow student, to acquire any handouts, and to discover whether any changes were made to the syllabus.
10. Essay assignment sheets for each paper will provide format details, length requirements, due date, course weight, topics, and other relevant details.
11. Essays must be submitted as a hard copy to the instructor at 2:30 on the date due, and an electronic copy must be submitted to the Moodle site for EN 240-1 by 2:30 p.m. on the same date. **Electronic files must be standard formats such as MS Word or PDF.**
12. Papers must be printed single-sided, in a conventional twelve-point font such as Times New Roman or Garamond and double-spaced, with one-inch margins all sides. In the upper left corner list your name, my name, the course number, and date, all on separate lines. At the centre of the next line, please provide a title designed to prepare your reader for your argument. I will not read papers whose pages are not numbered and stapled. The same goes for papers that do not follow the format and documentation guidelines of the Modern Languages Association (MLA).
13. I find e-mail an inadequate way to discuss paper topics and theses, so I ask that you meet with me, either during office hours or by appointment, to talk about papers. Please come in before your paper is due. I will gladly meet with you up until two days before the paper is due, so please plan your writing with this timeline in mind.

Grading

Explications	10% (2 @ 5%)
Essay 1	10%
Essay 2	20%
Midterm exam	20%
Participation	10%
Final exam	30%
	100

Final grades for the course appear as letter grades. The table below shows the percentage equivalents for each letter grade.

Letter Grade	Percentage
A+	96-100
A	91-95
A-	86-90
B+	82-85
B	75-81
B-	72-74
C+	68-71
C	63-67
C-	60-62
D+	56-59
D	50-55
F	0-49

Important Dates:

- Last day to enter a course without permission;
withdraw from a course; change to audit and receive
tuition refund 16 September
- Last day to withdraw from course without academic penalty 12 November

Electronic Etiquette

All electronics—things such as laptops, phones, tablets, cameras, that is, all recording devices—must be switched off during class in EN 240. This policy means you must take handwritten notes.

Academic Policies

It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies as stated in the Student Handbook and Academic Calendar. Personal information, that is information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual, may be collected as a requirement as part of taking this class. Any information collected will only be used and disclosed for the purpose for which the collection was intended. For further information contact the Privacy Compliance Officer at privacy@ambrose.edu.

Important Notes about Dates:

Students may change the designation of any class from credit to audit, or drop out of the “audit” up to the “drop” date indicated above. After that date, the original status remains and the student is responsible for related fees. Please note that this is a **new policy**, beginning in the 2010-2011 academic year.

Students wishing to withdraw from a course, but who fail to do so by the applicable date, will receive the grade earned in accordance with the course syllabus. A student obliged to withdraw from a course after the Withdrawal Deadline because of health or other reasons may apply to the Registrar for special consideration.

Extensions

Although extensions to coursework in the semester are at the discretion of the instructor, students may not turn in coursework for evaluation after the last day of the scheduled final examination period unless they have received permission for a “Course Extension” from the Registrar’s Office. Requests for course extensions or alternative examination time must be submitted to the Registrar’s Office by the appropriate deadline (as listed in the Academic Calendar <http://www.ambrose.edu/publications/academiccalendar>). Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise “due to circumstances beyond the student’s control.”

Examinations

Final examinations for regular semester classes are held during a scheduled time period at the end of the semester and are scheduled by the Registrar. Please consult the exam schedule for Fall 2012 at www.ambrose.edu/registrar for the times and dates of your final exams.

Please note: Students may request revised final exams if they have three exams in one 24-hour period or two exams at the same time. Final exam schedule revision request forms are available at the Registrar’s Office and must be handed in by Monday, 29 October 2012. If you do not have your request in by this date, all exams within a 24-hour period will have to be written as scheduled. If you have two exams at the same time, you will be given four hours to write both exams.

Graded final examinations will be available for supervised review at the request of the student. Please contact your instructor.

Appeals

An appeal for change of grade on any course work must be made to the course instructor within one week of receiving notification of the grade. An appeal for change of final grade must be submitted to the Office of the Registrar in writing within 30 days of receiving notification of the final grade, providing the basis for appeal. A review fee of \$50.00 must accompany the appeal to review final grades. If the appeal is sustained, the fee will be refunded.

Academic Integrity

We are committed to fostering personal integrity and will not overlook breaches of integrity such as plagiarism and cheating. Academic dishonesty is taken seriously at Ambrose University College as it undermines our academic standards and affects the integrity of each member of our learning community. Any attempt to obtain credit for academic work through fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest means is academic dishonesty. Plagiarism involves presenting someone else’s ideas, words, or work as one’s own. Plagiarism is fraud and theft, but plagiarism can also occur by accident when a student fails or forgets to give credit to another person’s ideas or words. Plagiarism and cheating can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the university college. Students are expected to be familiar with the policies in the current Academic Calendar and the Student Handbook that deal with plagiarism, cheating, and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean and become part of the student’s permanent record.

Students are strongly advised to retain this syllabus for their records.

Proposed Course Schedule

Tuesday	Thursday
	6 September Introduction
11 September Reading children's literature, a primer	13 September Alphabets: Comenius, from <i>Orbis Pictus</i> ; "The Childes Guide"; <i>A Little Book for Children</i> , "A Was an Archer"; <i>The Picture Alphabet</i> , "A Was an Archer"; Dr. Suess, From <i>Dr. Suess's ABC</i> ; Edward Lear "The Absolutely Abstemious Ass"
18 September Conduct Books: Stanhope, "Awkwardness," "Bashfulness," "Matrimony"; "Familiarity," "Stays and Corsets," "Padding"; Antrim, "Don't's for Girls"	20 September Hornbooks and Primers: <i>The New England Primer</i> ; <i>New Canadian Readers</i> , Preface from <i>A First Reader</i> ; <i>Fun with Dick and Jane</i> , "Jane Helps"
25 September Folktales: Perrault, "Little Red Riding Hood"; Brothers Grimm, "Little Red Cap"; Marelle, "The True History of Little Golden-hood"; De La Mare, "Little Red Riding Hood"; Storr, "Little Polly Riding Hood"	27 September Spiritual Emphasis Day, no class
Tuesday	Thursday
2 October Literary Folktales: "The Light Princess"; "The Happy Prince"	4 October <i>The Paper Bag Princess</i> "Antelope Woman" (explication 1 due)
9 October Animal Fables: "The Sea-Thing Child" <i>The Velveteen Rabbit</i>	11 October <i>The Velveteen Rabbit</i> (essay 1 due)
16 October <i>Charlotte's Web</i>	18 October Mid-term exam
23 October <i>Charlotte's Web</i>	25 October <i>Treasure Island</i> (explication 2 due)
30 October <i>Treasure Island</i>	
Tuesday	Thursday
	1 November <i>Treasure Island</i>
6 November Legends: Browning, "The Pied Piper of Hamelin"; <i>History of Robin Hood</i>	8 November Christian Stories: <i>A Token for Children</i> ; <i>The Pilgrim's Progress</i> ; <i>Divine Songs for Children</i> ; (essay 2 due)
13 November <i>The Hobbit</i>	15 November <i>The Hobbit</i>
20 November <i>The Hobbit</i>	22 November Young Adult Literature and Culture: Montgomery, "Each in His Own Tongue"; Carrier, "The Hockey Sweater"
27 November Visual Literacy: Picture Books—b&w, colour	29 November <i>Bronx Masquerade</i> , "Long Live Langston," "Attendance," "Bruised Love," "If," "Black Box," "Ode to Stone," "Bronx Masquerade"
Tuesday	Thursday
4 December Last class (exam review)	
Final Exam: Wednesday, 12 December 9:00 a.m. A2133* Students must verify this date and time by visiting the Registrar's site.	

