

INF 322T – Children’s Literature

Unique Number: 27085

Fall 2019

Contact

Instructor: Kristen Oglesbee Ederer
Office Hours: By appointment (Canvas Conferences Online)
Email: kristenoglesbee@utexas.edu
TA: TA Pool
Email: ta_pool@ischool.utexas.edu

Overview & Objectives

Children’s Literature (INF 322T) is a survey course in the evaluation, selection, and proper and creative use of books and other media with children ages 0 to 14.

In this course, students will engage in extensive reading of children's books to:

- develop their capacity to critically read, analyze, and respond to a diverse body of literature
- identify and evaluate the elements of various genres of children’s literature
- apply knowledge of children, their development, and interests to the selection and recommendation of appropriate literature
- apply knowledge of selection and evaluation criteria to books created for children

Readings

Required Textbook: Short, K.G., Lynch-Brown, C. & Tomlinson, C. (2017). Essentials of Children's Literature (9th Edition)

Required Canvas Readings: Additional reading and viewing assignments (including articles, websites, videos, and children's picture books) will be posted in the weekly modules on Canvas. There is no printed course packet for this course.

Required Children’s Chapter Books:

- Charlotte’s Web by E.B. White
- The Wednesday Wars by Gary Schmidt
- The Crossover by Kwame Alexander
- Wonder by R.J. Palacio
- Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone by J. K. Rowling
- Better Nate Than Ever by Tim Federle
- The Tale of Despereaux by Kate DiCamillo
- The Giver by Lois Lowry
- Dead End in Norvelt by Jack Gantos or Esperanza Rising by Pam Muñoz Ryan
- Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson
- El Deafo by Cece Bell

Schedule

Module	Week
Week 1 – Why Children's Literature Matters and Know the Child, Know the Books	08/29 - 09/08

Week 2 – Books for Babies, Books for Toddlers and Picture Books	09/09 - 09/15
Week 3 – Books for Beginning Readers; Poetry	09/16 - 09/29
Week 4 – Reading Aloud and History	09/30 - 10/06
Week 5 – Intellectual Freedom	10/07 - 10/13
Week 6 – Realistic Fiction	10/14 - 10/20
Week 7 – Traditional Literature	10/21 - 10/17
Week 8 – Fantasy; Science Fiction	10/28 - 11/03
Week 9 – Historical Fiction & Biography	11/04 - 11/17
Week 10 – Informational Books	11/18 - 11/24
Week 11 – Graphic Novels for Children	12/02 - 12/08

Assignments and Grading

This course has three types of assignments: weekly discussions, weekly quizzes and final project.

Points by assignments

Assignments	Due date	Percentage of Grade
Weekly discussions	Every Thursday 11:59pm for posting your discussion; following Sunday 11:59pm for responding to others' posts	30%
Weekly quizzes	Every Sunday 11:59pm	20%
Assignments	Every Sunday 11:59pm	30%
Project	November 10 11:59pm	20%

Grading Scale

A	94-100
A -	90-93
B +	87-89
B	84-86
B -	80-83
C +	77-79
C	74-76
C -	70-73
D +	67-69
D	64-66
D -	60-63
F	0-59

Discussions:

The discussions will take place in Canvas using the discussions tool and count as participation in the course. A few questions will be posted related to the topic and readings of the week. Students are required to post an initial discussion in 400 words or more to the board by Thursday night at 11:59pm CT each week and respond to two students in 150 words or more each by Sunday at 11:59pm CT. **I will not accept late posts to the discussion board.**

Weekly Quizzes:

The questions for the quizzes will come out of the assigned textbook chapters and chapter books. These questions are meant to test that students have read the book and grasped some of the concepts of the book. The quizzes will be open for a full week and are due at 11:59pm CT on Sunday. **I will not accept late quizzes.**

Assignments:

Students will participate in weekly assignments where they will be required to apply their understanding of the course material. The assignments will be based on concepts from the course textbook. **I will not accept late assignments.**

Project:

Students will create a portfolio on Children's Literature topics.

University Policies

- **Academic Integrity**

Please abide by the University's policy on academic integrity. All work you submit must be your own. "Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating and plagiarism... Students who violate University rules on scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and/or dismissal from the University. University policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced." From: The University of Texas: General Information, Appendix C.

If I find blatant plagiarism (copy and paste from Wikipedia, for example) you will be referred to Student Judicial Services and you will fail the class. Plagiarism is my least favorite thing to deal with in this course. Avoid it!

- **Special Needs**

The University of Texas at Austin provides upon request appropriate accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. To determine if you qualify, please contact the Dean of Students at 471-6259; 471-4641 TTY. If they certify your needs, we will work with you to make appropriate arrangements.

- **Religious or Holy Day Observance**

"A student who misses classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day should inform the instructor as far in advance of the absence as possible, so that arrangements can be made to complete an assignment within a reasonable time after the absence."

(<http://www.utexas.edu/student/registrar/catalogs/gi04-05/ch4/ch4g.html>)

- **Email**

"Electronic mail (e-mail), like postal mail, is a mechanism for official University communication to students. The University will exercise the right to send e-mail communications to all students, and the University will expect that e-mail communications will be received and read in a timely manner."

(<http://www.utexas.edu/student/registrar/catalogs/gi04-05/app/appn.html>). Both the instructor and the TA will reply to student emails within 24 hours on weekdays and 48 hours on weekends barring a rare and extenuating circumstances.

I look forward to working with you all this semester. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, do not hesitate to email the Instructor or TA pool!