



CAPILANO UNIVERSITY

COURSE OUTLINE		
TERM: Fall 2023	COURSE NO: ENGL 218	
INSTRUCTOR:	COURSE TITLE: The Art of Children's Literature	
OFFICE: LOCAL: E-MAIL: @capilanou.ca	SECTION NO(S):	CREDITS: 3.0
OFFICE HOURS:		
COURSE WEBSITE:		

Capilano University acknowledges with respect the Lilwat7úl (Lil'wat), x^wməθk^wəyəm (Musqueam), shíshálh (Sechelt), Sḵwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and sə́lílwətaʔt/Selilwitulh (Tseil-Waututh) people on whose territories our campuses are located.

COURSE FORMAT

Three hours of class time, plus an additional hour delivered through online or other activities for a 15-week semester, which includes two weeks for final exams.

COURSE PREREQUISITES

6 credits of 100-level ENGL

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

This course explores the rich variety of children's literature, from picture books to YA (young adult) novels, and considers how writing for children delights, instructs, and subverts. The course will explore oral traditions such as Indigenous storytelling and folklore and critically examine Anglo-American dominance within the canon of children's literature. Attending to constructions of gender, sexuality, race, and class within books intended for children, we will also consider complex questions of audience in a body of work written for children primarily by adults.

COURSE NOTE

ENGL 218 is an approved Culture and Creative Expression course for Cap Core requirements. For the focus of the course each term, see the "Courses" page on the English Department website.

REQUIRED TEXTS AND/OR RESOURCES

A selection of picture books, children's poetry and prose, and YA novels, along with critical and scholarly readings. The course may make use of a published anthology or coursepack. Specific texts will vary depending on the instructor and term. Example texts appear within "COURSE CONTENT" below.

COURSE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

On successful completion of this course, students will be able to do the following:

1. Describe and critically evaluate the characteristics of a range of children's literature.
2. Critically engage with discourses about the functions of children's literature, such as edification, entertainment, and psychological development.
3. Explain how children's literature fits into the historical, social, political, and cultural milieus from which it arises and analyze it from various critical viewpoints, focusing on topics such as gender, sexuality, disability, race, and settler colonialism.
4. Understand "childhood" and the field of "children's literature" as culturally specific constructions, and attend to who has been included and excluded by culturally dominant conceptions.
5. Examine the strategies Black, Indigenous, and LGBTQIA2S+ children's authors have used to represent diversity or injustices to different age groups, attending to elements such as joy, humour, and resilience.
6. Incorporate detailed observation, synthetic thinking, and insightful interpretation in written and oral work to demonstrate the ability to read with attention.
7. Compose essays and oral responses with a degree of historical awareness, self-reflection, analytical rigour, and imagination.
8. Prepare for and participate in class discussion and seminar groups with content designed to add to the collective understanding of texts and issues.
9. Compose essays that conform to accepted practices for conducting research and presenting evidence while also striving to be insightful, original, and creative.

Students who complete this Culture and Creative Expression course will be able to do the following:

1. Engage in creative processes including conception, investigation, execution, and ongoing critical analysis.
2. Identify, analyze, and critique the elements of a form of expression using its specific vocabulary.
3. Explain or demonstrate the connection between various events, ideas, traditions, and belief systems and the modes in which they are artistically or culturally expressed.
4. Interpret diverse forms of creative expression from different perspectives (e.g. artistic, historical, Indigenous, literary, scientific, philosophical).

COURSE CONTENT

The content and week-by-week breakdown of the course will vary by term and instructor. The following is an example:

Week 1: Introduction; Indigenous creation stories for different age audiences

Selected tellings of Sky Woman (Robin Wall Kimmerer, Thomas King, Michelle Corneau)

Week 2: Learning respect for the land

Lindstrom, Carole. *We Are Water Protectors*. Illustrated by Michaela Goade. Roaring Brook, 2020.

Week 3: Critiquing colonial extraction and gender constructions in Victorian adventure narratives
Selections from Victorian periodicals (*The Boy's Own Paper, Boys of England*)

Week 4: Countering stereotypes through pictorial representation

Love, Jessica. *Julián Is a Mermaid*. Candlewick, 2018.

Franklin, Ashley. *Not Quite Snow White*. Illustrated by Ebony Glenn. Harper Collins, 2019.

Week 5: Playing with images: visual jokes and metafictionality

Hunt, Dallas. *Awâsis and the World-Famous Bannock*. Illustrated by Amanda Strong. HighWater Press, 2018.

Stone, Jon. *The Monster at the End of This Book*. Illustrated by Michael Smollin. Golden Books, 1999.

Week 6: Cultivating girls in the "Golden Age" of children's lit

Carroll, Lewis. *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*. Penguin, 2010.

Week 7: Humour, nonsense, and anti-didacticism

Carroll, Lewis. *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*. Penguin, 2010 (cont'd).

Dr. Seuss, *The Cat in the Hat*. Random House, 1957.

Week 8: Mid-term review

Week 9: Growing up during war

Satrapi, Marjane. *Persepolis: The Story of a Childhood*. Pantheon, 2004.

Week 10: Talking to children about residential schools

Robertson, David A. *When We Were Alone*. Illustrated by Julie Flett. HighWater Press, 2016.

Week 11: The OwnVoices movement

Selections, *Trans Youth Stories: An Intergenerational Dialogue After the "Trans Tipping Point."* Ed. Lindsay Herriot and Kate Fry. Women's Press, 2021.

Week 12: Censorship and book banning

Kobabe, Maia. *Gender Queer: A Memoir*. Lion Forge, 2019.

Week 13: Presentations

Weeks 14-15: Final Exam Period

Content Warnings

The readings and lessons in this course are designed to challenge and transform your thinking and to help you develop your capacities for engaging critically and empathetically with the world around you. At times, course materials may contain potentially triggering content for some students. In the interest of creating safer spaces for all members of our university community so that everyone's

learning can flourish, instructors and students will aim to provide content notes ahead of time and will encourage everyone to communicate any specific concerns they might have.

Also, please note that questioning our social conditioning, assumptions, or privileges may make us uncomfortable at times, but doing so is a vital part of collective learning and self-growth. While students may feel uncomfortable when engaging with certain course materials or class discussions, they should not be made to feel unsafe. In order to create a supportive classroom environment, it is vital that we all respect each other's privacy, boundaries, and identities.

EVALUATION PROFILE

Written Assignments 50-80% *

Quizzes 10-20%

Presentations & Group Projects 0-20%

Participation** 10%

Total 100%

*To include one graded assignment returned prior to the withdrawal date. No single assignment to be worth more than 35% of the final grade.

** Participation grades are based on the consistency, quality, and frequency of contributions to class discussions. Consistency means attending every class, maintaining a positive and respectful presence in the classroom, and actively contributing to discussions on a regular basis. Quality means demonstrating respect for peers and their contributions; listening attentively during lectures and when other students are speaking; and participating in all activities with an open and inquisitive mind.

ASSIGNMENTS:

The assignment structure for this course is determined by the instructor in accordance with the learning outcomes outlined above. Please refer to the course syllabus for a more detailed breakdown.

GRADING PROFILE

A+ = 90-100	B+ = 77-79	C+ = 67-69	D = 50-59
A = 85-89	B = 73-76	C = 63-66	F = 0-49
A- = 80-84	B- = 70-72	C- = 60-62	

Incomplete Grades

Grades of Incomplete "I" are assigned only in exceptional circumstances when a student requests extra time to complete their coursework. Such agreements are made only at the request of the student, who is responsible to determine from the instructor the outstanding requirements of the course.

Late Assignments

Assignments are due at the beginning of the class on the due date listed. If you anticipate handing in an assignment late, please consult with your instructor beforehand.

Missed Exams/Quizzes/Labs etc.

Make-up exams, quizzes and/or tests are given at the discretion of the instructor. They are generally given only in medical emergencies or severe personal crises. Some missed labs or other activities may not be able to be accommodated. Please consult with your instructor.

*** Accommodations can be made to honour community needs and traditional practices.

Attendance

This course is built around an active classroom component. Attendance in all class meetings is therefore strongly advised. Students not attending class regularly will be at a considerable disadvantage. Official university policy on attendance is found in the Calendar.

English Usage

Students are expected to proofread all written work for any grammatical, spelling and stylistic errors. Instructors may deduct marks for incorrect grammar and spelling in written assignments.

Electronic Devices

Students may use electronic devices during class for note-taking only.

Online Communication

Outside of the classroom, instructors will (if necessary) communicate with students using either their official Capilano University email or eLearn; please check both regularly. Official communication between Capilano University and students is delivered to students' Capilano University email addresses only.

UNIVERSITY OPERATIONAL DETAILS**Tools for Success**

Many services are available to support student success for Capilano University students. A central navigation point for all services can be found at: <https://www.capilanou.ca/student-services/>

Capilano University Security: download the [CapU Mobile Safety App](#)

Policy Statement (S2009-06)

Capilano University has policies on Academic Appeals (including appeal of final grade), Student Conduct, Academic Integrity, Academic Probation and other educational issues. These and other policies are available on the University website.

Academic Integrity (S2017-05)

Any instance of academic dishonesty or breach of the standards of academic integrity is serious and students will be held accountable for their actions, whether acting alone or in a group. See policy and procedures S2017-05 Academic Integrity for more information: <https://www.capilanou.ca/about-capu/governance/policies/>

Violations of academic integrity, including dishonesty in assignments, examinations, or other academic performances, are prohibited and will be handled in accordance with the Student Academic Integrity Procedures.

Academic dishonesty is any act that breaches one or more of the principles of academic integrity. Acts of academic dishonesty may include but are not limited to the following types:

Cheating: Using or providing unauthorized aids, assistance or materials while preparing or completing assessments, or when completing practical work (in clinical, practicum, or lab settings), including but not limited to the following:

- Copying or attempting to copy the work of another during an assessment;
- Communicating work to another student during an examination;
- Using unauthorized aids, notes, or electronic devices or means during an examination;
- Unauthorized possession of an assessment or answer key; and/or,
- Submitting of a substantially similar assessment by two or more students, except in the case where such submission is specifically authorized by the instructor.

Fraud: Creation or use of falsified documents.

Misuse or misrepresentation of sources: Presenting source material in such a way as to distort its original purpose or implication(s); misattributing words, ideas, etc. to someone other than the original source; misrepresenting or manipulating research findings or data; and/or suppressing aspects of findings or data in order to present conclusions in a light other than the research, taken as a whole, would support.

Plagiarism: Presenting or submitting, as one's own work, the research, words, ideas, artistic imagery, arguments, calculations, illustrations, or diagrams of another person or persons without explicit or accurate citation or credit.

Self-Plagiarism: Submitting one's own work for credit in more than one course without the permission of the instructors, or re-submitting work, in whole or in part, for which credit has already been granted without permission of the instructors.

Prohibited Conduct: The following are examples of other conduct specifically prohibited:

- Taking unauthorized possession of the work of another student (for example, intercepting and removing such work from a photocopier or printer, or collecting the graded work of another student from a stack of papers);
- Falsifying one's own and/or other students' attendance in a course;
- Impersonating or allowing the impersonation of an individual;
- Modifying a graded assessment then submitting it for re-grading; or,
- Assisting or attempting to assist another person to commit any breach of academic integrity.

Sexual Violence and Misconduct

All Members of the University Community have the right to work, teach and study in an environment that is free from all forms of sexual violence and misconduct. Policy B401 defines sexual assault as follows:

Sexual assault is any form of sexual contact that occurs without ongoing and freely given consent, including the threat of sexual contact without consent. Sexual assault can be committed by a stranger, someone known to the survivor or an intimate partner.

Safety and security at the University are a priority and any form of sexual violence and misconduct will not be tolerated or condoned. The University expects all Students and Members of the University Community to abide by all laws and University policies, including B.401 Sexual Violence and Misconduct Policy and B.401.1 Sexual Violence and Misconduct Procedure (found on Policy page <https://www.capilanou.ca/about-capu/governance/policies/>)

Emergencies: Students are expected to familiarise themselves with the emergency policies where appropriate and the emergency procedures posted on the wall of the classroom.

DEPARTMENTAL OR PROGRAM OPERATIONAL DETAILS

Equity, Diversity & Inclusion

Treating everyone with respect and compassion is a responsibility we all share in creating an inclusive environment that is conducive to learning. Our diverse backgrounds, identities, experiences, languages and learning styles should not only be respected in the classroom but also celebrated as a source of expanding our understanding of other people and, in turn, our capacity for empathy. Students and instructors are expected to cultivate open-mindedness and remain aware of, and sensitive to, the diversity of identity and experience in our university community.