



**Instructor:** Daniela Janes

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**Course Number:** ENG234H5S

**Course Title:** Children's Literature

**Course description:** Students in this class will study a broad range of texts written for (or appropriated by) children. Our readings will begin with songs and verse for pre-literate infants and young children, and move through texts for emerging readers. However, the bulk of the course will be devoted to texts written for independent older readers. Exploring a variety of forms and genres, we will map the history of children's literature through our readings of poetry, songs, picture books, short stories, novels, and graphic novels. Topics for analysis will include the historical contexts of the development of children's literature; shifting representations of childhood in fiction; the "Golden Age" of children's literature; the recurrence of archetypal characters and motifs; and the relationship between words and images.

**Required Reading:** Jack Zipes et al., *The Norton Anthology of Children's Literature* (selections); Lewis Carroll, *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*; L.M. Montgomery, *Anne of Green Gables*; Frances Hodgson Burnett, *The Secret Garden*; C.S. Lewis, *The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe*; E.B. White, *Charlotte's Web*; Brian Selznick, *The Invention of Hugo Cabret*.

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**First Three Texts/Authors to be Studied:** Lullabies (Norton 1132-1138); Nursery verse (Norton 1138-1147); Alphabets (Norton 1-32).

**Method of Instruction:** Lecture and discussion

**Method of Evaluation:** in-class exercises (5%), reading log (5%), mid-term test (15 %), essay (30%), final exam (35%), informed participation (10 %).