This course is a survey of children’s literature. You will be introduced to authors and texts that have defined children’s literature. You will discuss children’s books and write about how children’s literature shapes and reflects cultural ideas about children and childhood. You will develop knowledge of children’s writers and the history of children’s literature and demonstrate this knowledge in discussions, exams, presentations, and papers.

Requirements: Two essays (3-4 pages), 200 points each, one annotated bibliography of ten sources, 100 points, one group presentation on a genre of children’s literature, 200 points, one poem presentation, 100 points, mid-term exam, 100 points, participation (reading quizzes, contributions to class discussions at every meeting, in-class and out-of-class writing assignments and mini-projects), 100 points.

Honors section students will complete a read aloud project or develop some other publication (a piece of fan fiction, a video parodying or exploring an award winning book) a reading and discussion page to share with an elementary or middle school classroom, a submission of a poster application to the undergraduate research fair) in order to complete the honors requirement.

Required: Books and materials: buy and bring to class on appropriate days. If you do not bring the book to class, and if you have not done the reading, I will consider you unprepared for class. Paper copies of all texts are preferred. Forgetting your books and neglecting to complete your readings are examples of disruptive behavior.

*Reading Children’s Literature*, Carrie Hintz and Eric Tribunella, eds. ISBN 9780312608484 or new second edition 9781554814435 (I will work with students if they use the old ones.

*Picture This: How Pictures Work* Molly Bang ISBN 978158717-030-0


*One Crazy Summer*, Rita Williams-Garcia ISBN-10 0060760907


*This is the Rope* Jacqueline Woodson, ISBN 0425288943

*Frederick*, Leo Lionni, ISBN 038575549x

*The Ugly Vegetables*, Grace Lin, ISBN-10 1570914915


*Because of Winn Dixie*, Kate DiCamillo, ISBN 10 0763680869