Course Description
Children’s Literature, ENGL 3401

Dr. Cohoon, lcohoon@memphis.edu
Patterson 110

This course is a survey of children’s literature. You will be introduced to authors and texts that have shaped the field of children’s literature. You will read, talk, and write about how children’s literature shapes and reflects cultural ideas about children and childhood.

Course goals:
To become familiar with a variety of approaches to children’s literature and to learn about resources that will enhance the study of children’s literature.
To read multiple children’s literature texts and respond to them orally and in writing.
To develop critical thinking skills by writing and talking about children’s literature.
To learn to recognize and express ideas about textual, visual, and design elements of picture books, storybooks, and illustrated chapter books.
To learn about authors and illustrators of children’s and to discuss how biographical, cultural, and historical context shapes children’s texts.
To understand how children’s literature shapes cultural ideas about children’s cognitive, social, and emotional development.
To recognize genres of children’s literature and to hone critical awareness of how literature becomes available to children.

To develop and put into practice strategies for teaching children’s literature.

Requirements: Two researched papers (4 pages each); one group presentation on an award-winning author, one poem presentation, exam, participation (reading quizzes, writing assignments, significant contributions to class discussions at every meeting, engagement with the class)

Textbooks:

* **Reading Children’s Literature,**  
  - **Publisher:** Broadview Press; 2 edition (March 28, 2019)  
  - **Language:** English  
  - **ISBN-10:** 155481443X  
  - **ISBN-13:** 978-1554814435

* **Anne of Green Gables,**  
  - **Publisher:** Signet (May 6, 2003)  
  - **Language:** English  
  - **ISBN-10:** 0451528824  
  - **ISBN-13:** 978-0451528827

* **Charlotte’s Web,**  
  - **Publisher:** HarperCollins (1800)  
  - **ASIN:** B01070WUQ4

* **Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland**  
  - **Paperback**  
  - **Publisher:** Dover Publications (1994)  
  - **ASIN:** 0830128999

* **Francisco Jimenéz The Circuit,**  
  - **Publisher:** University of New Mexico Press; 1st edition (October 1, 1997)
Mildred D. Taylor *The Well*,
- **Paperback**: 112 pages
- **Publisher**: Puffin Books; Reprint edition (September 1, 1998)
- **Language**: English
- **ISBN-10**: 0140386424
- **ISBN-13**: 978-0140386424

Ursula K. Le Guin *Wizard of Earthsea*,
- **Publisher**: HMH Books for Young Readers; Reprint edition (September 11, 2012)
- **Language**: English
- **ISBN-10**: 0547773749
- **ISBN-13**: 978-0547773742

Nikki Giovanni *Bronx Masquerade*,
- **Paperback**: 192 pages
- **Publisher**: Speak; Reprint edition (August 8, 2017)
- **Language**: English
- **ISBN-10**: 9780425289761
- **ISBN-13**: 978-0425289761

Gene Luen Yang *American Born Chinese*,
- **Publisher**: Square Fish; First edition (December 23, 2008)
- **Language**: English
- **ISBN-10**: 0312384483
- **ISBN-13**: 978-0312384487

Eleanor Estes *The Hundred Dresses*
- **ISBN-10**: 0152052607
- **ISBN-13**: 978-0152052607

Malinda Lo *Ash*
- **Publisher**: Little, Brown Books for Young Readers; Revised edition (May 14, 2019)
- **Language**: English
- **ISBN-10**: 0316531316
- **ISBN-13**: 978-0316531313

Pam Muñoz Ryan *Esperanza Rising*.
- **ISBN-10**: 9780439120425
- **ISBN-13**: 978-0439120425