

**English 275: Children's Literature**  
**Fall 2022**  
**Sec. 01, 02**

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**Course Description**

A survey of literature for children focused on techniques of literary study, social contexts of literature, new developments in the field of study, and criteria for evaluating the quality of fiction and novels, picture books, fairy tales, nonfiction texts, poetry, and plays.

**Learning Objectives for the Course**

- (Re)discover the pleasure of children's literature.
- Get to know the existing wealth of children's literature; become familiar with past and present authors, illustrators, and genres in children's literature.
- Differentiate between nostalgia, personal response, and objective evaluation.
- Learn to evaluate children's literature and understand the issues involved evaluating children's books.
- Come to understand issues involved with selecting and teaching various categories of children's books.
- Learn techniques for discussing literature and incorporating literature into the classroom.

**Our Class Questions:**

- What makes a children's book "good"?
- What is the purpose of children's literature?
- What differentiates a book for children from a book for adults?
- How do we select books for children to read?
- How do we approach teaching children's literature?

**Required Texts**

Our textbook is available for purchase in the University bookstore. We will also be reading a selection of novels that are available online or through the bookstore.

- *Reading Children's Literature: A Critical Introduction* Eds. Carrie Hintz and Eric Tribunella
- An array of other children's books that are available on Project Gutenberg for free as well as at the online UWSP bookstore and most book stores and libraries, including *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, *Anne of Green Gables*, and *Little Lord Fauntleroy* (any edition will be fine). We will also read *My Brother Sam Is Dead*, which is available at the UWSP online bookstore, through retail bookstores, or in the library.







