



UNIVERSITY OF  
CALGARY

YOUNG PEOPLE'S LITERATURE			
Course Number	ENGL 396	Fall 2020	
Faculty / Department	Faculty of Arts / Department of English		
Instructor Name	Dr. Derritt Mason (he/him)	Email	<a href="mailto:derritt.mason@ucalgary.ca">derritt.mason@ucalgary.ca</a>
Instructor Email Policy	Please note that all course communications must occur through your @ucalgary email. I answer email during regular business hours: Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm. Please allow up to 48 hours for a response.		
Office Location	Zoom	Telephone No:	N/A
Office Hours	Tuesday, 1-2pm (via Zoom)		
Class Dates/Times/Location	TR 11am-12:15pm (for three synchronous sessions)		

**Course Description:**

This class is a critical and historical study of children's and young adult literature. Students will consider the terms through which critics have sought to define (or not define) children's literature, the expectations that surround the genre, how children's literature and its adaptations may subvert and/or bolster these expectations, and how contemporary queer, trans, Black, and Indigenous authors and authors of colour are reshaping the contours of the genre. Students will depart the class having cultivated critical tools for approaching a range of texts for young people, in addition to developing a heightened awareness of the fraught relationship between children's and young adult literature and its authors, critics and audiences. This class has no prerequisites and is not open to students with credit in English 398.

This course will take place **online** via TopHat, Desire2Learn (D2L), and occasionally Zoom. To best succeed in the course, you are encouraged to participate in the asynchronous learning tasks using the TopHat and D2L learning environments, and synchronous sessions on TopHat and/or Zoom. Although I encourage you to attend all scheduled synchronous classes, each session will be recorded and posted online in case you are unable to make it.

There will be **three synchronous sessions** throughout the term, to be held on **Tues. Sept 8, Tues. Oct. 6, and Thurs. Nov. 5** from **11am-12:15pm MST**. For more information, please see the class reading schedule.

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Summarize and describe various critical and historical perspectives on children's and young adult literature and the cultural categories of "childhood" and "adolescence"
2. Describe and analyze the conventions of children's and young adult literature according to different theoretical perspectives
3. Critically read and analyze a range of texts for young people, including fairy tales and illustrated material
4. Describe and discuss the influence of contemporary social, political and cultural issues on children's and young adult literature
5. Thoughtfully research and design a syllabus, discussion questions and assignments for a children's literature-themed class or unit

**Primary Texts** (available in ebook or print formats):

Textbook:

Carrie Hintz & Eric L. Tribunella, *Reading Children's Literature: A Critical Introduction* (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, Broadview Press, 2019)

Fiction:

J.M. Barrie, *Peter Pan* (1911) (recommended edition: Broadview Press, ed. Anne H. Alton, 2011)

Akwaeke Emezi, *Pet* (2019)

Thomas King, *Coyote Tales* (2017)

Vivek Shraya, *God Loves Hair* (10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition, 2020)

**\* Additional readings will be made available online. Please see the reading schedule for more information.**

**Learning Technologies and Requirements:**

There are D2L and TopHat sites for this course that contain required readings and other relevant class resources and materials (please see [d2l.ucalgary.ca](http://d2l.ucalgary.ca) & [tophat.com](http://tophat.com)).

In order to successfully engage in learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students taking online, remote and blended courses are required to have reliable access to the following technology:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates;
- A current and updated web browser;
- Webcam (built-in or external);
- Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone;
- Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;
- Broadband internet connection.

Most current laptops will have a built-in webcam, speaker and microphone.

## Assignments and Evaluation (detailed instructions to be distributed separately):

### **End-of-Module Quizzes** (30%, 6 x 5%)

Each module will culminate in a short, open book, timed multiple-choice quiz based on course readings, lectures, and class discussions. You must complete these quizzes individually, but you are free to refer to your notes and course readings during the quiz.

### **Sway Journal** (20%, 4 x 5%)

Using Microsoft Sway, you will keep a journal in which you'll make short, informal entries about course material and questions throughout the term (approx. 250 words/entry). These journal entries are an opportunity to share your thoughts on a given topic. In these entries, your focus should be on critical, self-reflexive thinking. Although these are not formal essays, you should not simply raise questions, but rather draw thoughtful connections between thoughts/texts and/or engage critically with your own reactions to course material. See the reading schedule and assignment instructions for more detail.

### **Elective Module Assignment / Term Project Proposal** (15%)

\*\* Note: For the elective module and final term project assignments, you may work independently or in a group (max. 3 people). If you choose to work as a group, you must work with the same group for both assignments, and you accept that every group member will receive the same grade.

For your term project, you will be designing a children's literature-related unit or course based on the topic and audience of your choice (e.g. a unit on Indigenous picture books for primary school students; a unit on multimedia fairy tale adaptations for high school English students; or a university course on intersectionality and young adult literature, LGBTQ children's literature, children's animated film, banned/censored picture books, or children's literature for economics majors... the possibilities are endless!). This assignment asks you to start thinking about and planning the term project by following these steps:

1. Select a topic that interests you!
2. Based on this topic, select and read ONE of the elective chapters of *Reading Children's Literature* (see reading schedule). If you are working as a group, each member must select and read a **different** chapter.
3. With direct reference to your elective reading, write a 500-word proposal that outlines your topic and proposed approach to your class/unit. In this proposal, you should clearly explain how the elective reading shaped your class/unit design and text selection.
4. Append a draft annotated bibliography that includes at least **three** texts that you are considering for inclusion in this class/unit.

### **Term Project** (35%)

This assignment will consist of three parts:

1. A max. 1000-word critical overview of your course and the themes and questions it will explore;
2. Context-appropriate activity ideas modeled after the "Approaches to Teaching" sections in *Reading Children's Literature*), and;
3. A complete annotated bibliography that summarizes and explains the relevance of your selected texts. If applicable, also attach your proposed reading schedule.

### **Assignment Policies:**

Extensions are only granted under exceptional circumstances—however, please do not hesitate to contact your instructor/TA if something arises. Extensions will not be granted after a deadline has passed, and no assignments will be accepted after a deadline without the prior consent of the instructor/TA. There will be no assignments given for extra credit. Students must complete the term project in order to qualify for a passing grade in this course.

There is no final exam in this course. All assignments will be submitted online, via TopHat and/or D2L. Assignments submitted via email will not be accepted unless prior arrangements have been made.

### **Conduct:**

Students, employees, and academic staff are expected to demonstrate behaviour in class that promotes and maintains a positive and productive learning environment. As members of the University community, students, employees, and academic staff are expected to demonstrate conduct that is consistent with the University of Calgary Calendar, the Code of Conduct and Non-Academic Misconduct policy and procedures, which can be found at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

### **Internet and Email Use:**

Students are responsible for being aware of the University's Internet and email use policy, which can be found at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/electronic-communications-policy.pdf>

### **Guidelines for Online Sessions:**

Zoom and TopHat are video conferencing and online learning programs that will allow us to meet at specific times for a live video conference, so that we can have the opportunity to gather virtually and discuss relevant course topics as a learning community.

To help ensure sessions are private, please do not share conferencing links or passwords with others, or on any social media platforms. Course links and passwords are only intended for students registered in the class. Zoom/TopHat recordings and materials presented on Zoom/TopHat/D2L, including any teaching materials, must not be shared, distributed or published without the instructor's permission.

The use of video conferencing programs relies on participants to act ethically, honestly and with integrity, and in accordance with the principles of fairness, good faith, and respect (as per the [Code of Conduct](#)). When entering video conferencing sessions, you play a role in helping create an effective, safe and respectful learning environment. Please be mindful of how your behaviour in these sessions may affect others. Participants are required to use names officially associated with their UCID (legal or preferred names listed in the Student Centre) when engaging in these activities.

Instructors/moderators can remove those whose names do not appear on class rosters. Non-compliance may be investigated under relevant University of Calgary conduct policies (e.g [Student](#)

[Non-Academic Misconduct Policy](#)). If participants have difficulties complying with this requirement, they should email the instructor of the class explaining why, so the instructor may consider whether to grant an exception, and on what terms. For more information on how to get the most out of your Zoom sessions visit: <https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/guidelines-for-zoom/>.

Please be prepared, as best as you are able, to join class in a quiet space that will allow you to be fully present and engaged in Zoom sessions. Students will be advised by their instructor when they are expected to turn on their webcam (for group work, presentations, etc.).

The instructor may record online class sessions for the purposes of supporting student learning in this class – such as making the recording available for review of the session or for students who miss a session. Students will be advised before the instructor initiates a recording of a Zoom session. These recordings will be used to support student learning only and will not be shared or used for any other purpose.

### **Grading System:**

In this course, assignments will receive a numerical grade, to be converted using the following scale:

90 + %	A+	4.0
85 – 89 %	A	4.0
80 – 84 %	A–	3.7
77 – 79 %	B+	3.3
74 – 76 %	B	3.0
70 – 73 %	B–	2.7
67 – 69 %	C+	2.3
64 – 66 %	C	2.0
60 – 63 %	C–	1.7
55 – 59 %	D+	1.3
50 – 54 %	D	1.0
0 – 49 %	F	0

Please note that, according to the University Calendar (F.1), instructors may use their discretion when rounding upwards or downwards when the average of term work and exams is between two letter grades. **My policy: I round grades upwards if they are within 0.50% of a higher grade. Please do not contact me to request an adjustment to your final grade unless (1) you suspect I have made an error, or (2) you are planning to formally appeal your results.**

Although the A+ is solely an honorific that entails no additional points in the 4-point system, the course instructor will employ this mark to distinguish superlative work that exceeds expectations in style, correctness, intellectual depth and breadth, sophistication, and originality.

**Plagiarism:**

Using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it is a serious academic offense. Consequences include failure on the assignment, failure in the course and possible suspension or expulsion from the university. Please refer to the following information and make sure you are familiar with the statement below on plagiarism.

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-5.html>

**Scribe and Muse Club for English Students:**

The Scribe and Muse Reading and Writing Club (SMRWC) fosters and champions reading and writing through community service, leadership, and engagement. We strive to enhance the academic and social experience of undergraduate students by promoting academic excellence and interaction between students, faculty, and the community, through social, cultural, and academic events

<http://english.ucalgary.ca/scribe-and-muse-english-club>.

Our email address is [smecuofc@gmail.com](mailto:smecuofc@gmail.com).

**English Department Website:**

For more information about courses, programs, policies, events and contacts in the Department of English, please go to our website at <https://arts.ucalgary.ca/english>. Please note that the course outlines posted on the English Department website constitute the official course outline for purposes of appeals. Students should verify any hard copies against this posted version. For courses which employ numerical grades, the official departmental percentage to letter grade conversion scale is also posted on the department website.

**Writing support:**

The Student Success Centre offers both online and workshop writing support for U of C students.

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support>

**Library and Research Support:**

Melanie Boyd, Librarian for English, offers research support to students, including strategies for finding articles, books, and other library materials. Contact: [maboyd@ucalgary.ca](mailto:maboyd@ucalgary.ca).

Find The English Pages research guide here:

[https://library.ucalgary.ca/sb.php?subject\\_id=52619](https://library.ucalgary.ca/sb.php?subject_id=52619)

**Follow the Department of English on Facebook & Twitter:****Academic regulations and schedules:**

Consult the Calendar for course information, university and faculty regulations, dates, deadlines and schedules, student, faculty and university rights and responsibilities. The homepage for the University Calendar is <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/index.htm>

**Grade appeals:**

Consult the following University Calendar link and request advice from the English Department office, SS 1152. Please note that “mere dissatisfaction with a decision is not sufficient grounds for the appeal of a grade or other academic decision.”

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i.html>

**Deferral of term work and final examinations:**

Should you require an extension for completion of term papers or assignments beyond the deadline of five days after the end of lectures, an Application of Deferment of Term Work form must be completed. The University also has regulations governing the deferral of final examinations. See Calendar:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-6.html>

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-7.html>

**Student Accommodations:****ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS**

The student accommodation policy can be found at: [ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy](http://ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy).

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

[ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy](http://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy).

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

The full policy on Student Accommodations is available

at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf> .

**Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points:** <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

**Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act:** <http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip>

**“Safewalk” Program:**

Campus Security will escort individuals day or night: call 220-5333 for assistance. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phone located at most parking lot pay booths.

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk/>

**Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:**

Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new Arts Students’ Centre (ASC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS102, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at

[ascarts@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ascarts@ucalgary.ca). You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at

<http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.

**\*RESEARCH ETHICS (if applicable)**

If a student is interested in undertaking an assignment that will involve collecting information from members of the public, they should speak with the course instructor and consult the CFREB Ethics (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/research/researchers/ethics-compliance/cfreb>) before beginning the assignment.

### **\*INSTRUCTOR'S INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

### **\*FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY**

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.

### **\*COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION**

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright-policy.pdf>) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>.

### **\*MEDIA RECORDING (if applicable)**

Please refer to the following statement on media recording of students:

[https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Media-Recording-in-Learning-Environments-OSP\\_FINAL.pdf](https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Media-Recording-in-Learning-Environments-OSP_FINAL.pdf)

### **\*Media recording for lesson capture**

The instructor may use media recordings to capture the delivery of a lecture. These recordings are intended to be used for lecture capture only and will not be used for any other purpose. Although the recording device will be fixed on the Instructor, in the event that incidental student participation is recorded, the instructor will ensure that any identifiable content (video or audio) is masked, or will seek consent to include the identifiable student content to making the content available on University approved platforms.

### **\*Media recording for self-assessment of teaching practices**

The instructor may use media recordings as a tool for self-assessment of their teaching practices. Although the recording device will be fixed on the instructor, it is possible that student participation in the course may be inadvertently captured. These recordings will be used for instructor self-assessment only and will not be used for any other purpose.



### **\*Media recording for the assessment of student learning**

The instructor may use media recordings as part of the assessment of students. This may include but is not limited to classroom discussions, presentations, clinical practice, or skills testing that occur during the course. These recordings will be used for student assessment purposes only and will not be shared or used for any other purpose.

### **SEXUAL VIOLENCE POLICY**

The University recognizes that all members of the University Community should be able to learn, work, teach and live in an environment where they are free from harassment, discrimination, and violence. The University of Calgary's sexual violence policy guides us in how we respond to incidents of sexual violence, including supports available to those who have experienced or witnessed sexual violence, or those who are alleged to have committed sexual violence. It provides clear response procedures and timelines, defines complex concepts, and addresses incidents that occur off-campus in certain circumstances. Please see the policy available at

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/sexual-violence-policy.pdf>

### **\*OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Please visit the Registrar's website at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for additional important information on the following:

- Wellness and Mental Health Resources
- Student Success
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Safewalk

### **Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI):**

"At the University of Calgary, feedback provided by students through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) survey provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses ([www.ucalgary.ca/usri](http://www.ucalgary.ca/usri)). Your responses make a difference – please participate in USRI Surveys."

### **PLAGIARISM**

Plagiarism is an extremely serious offence. Please read the following information carefully. The penalty routinely recommended by the English Department for documented plagiarism is failure of the course in which the offence occurred; academic probation is also routinely applied at the Faculty level. Suspension or expulsion can result from severe or repeated plagiarism.

The University Calendar states:

1. Plagiarism - Essentially plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Most commonly plagiarism exists when:

- a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test),
- b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author,
- c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or,
- d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted.

Plagiarism occurs when direct quotations are taken from a source without specific acknowledgement, or when original ideas or data from the source are not acknowledged. Citing your sources in a bibliography is not enough, because a bibliography does not establish which parts of a student's work are taken from other sources. MLA (Modern Language Association) documentation or other recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose. Advice on adequate documentation can be found at the following web sites:

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>

Students who are absent from class assessments (tests, participation activities, or other assignments) should inform their instructors as soon as possible. Instructors may request that evidence in the form of documentation be provided. If the reason provided for the absence is acceptable, instructors may decide that any arrangements made can take forms other than make-up tests or assignments. For example, the weight of a missed grade may be added to another assignment or test. For information on possible forms of documentation, including statutory declarations, please see

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/m-1.html>.

## **DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH STATEMENT ON PRINCIPLES OF CONDUCT**

According to the University Calendar; <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-2.html>

“The University of Calgary community has undertaken to be guided by the following statements of purpose and values: to promote free inquiry and debate, to act as a community of scholars, ..., to respect, appreciate, and encourage diversity, [and] to display care and concern for community”. The Department of English, like the university as a whole, is committed to a “positive and productive learning and working environment.” This environment is characterized by appreciation and encouragement of diversity and respect for the dignity of all persons: students, support staff, and faculty. The department will not tolerate unacceptable behaviour, such as threatening gestures, threatening or abusive verbal or written communication (including e-mails), or any conduct that “seriously disrupts the lawful education and related activities of students and/or university staff”. Any cases of such misconduct should be reported immediately to the department Head, who, depending on the nature and severity of the incident, may then take further appropriate action.