

HONG KONG BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

COURSE OUTLINE

1. COURSE TITLE

The Child and Literature

2. COURSE CODE

ENGL3096

3. NO. OF UNITS

3 Units

4. OFFERING DEPARTMENT

Department of English Language and Literature

5. PREREQUISITES

ENGL2007 Literary and Comparative Studies

6. MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION

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7. AIMS & OBJECTIVES

- 1) To introduce students to a wide variety of literature for and about children;
- 2) To enable students to identify and articulate currents of thought in the texts they encounter, to explore the manner of their expression, and to make comparisons where appropriate; and
- 3) To encourage students to view the study of literature from an educational point of view, regarding literature not only as literature but as a medium of instruction as well.

8. COURSE CONTENT

- I. Background to Literatures for and about Children: Definitions, Considerations, and Historical Developments
- II. Theoretical Standpoints for the Evaluation of Literatures for Children
- III. The Application of Theories to Specific Texts
- IV. The Role of Illustrations and Formatting in Children's Texts
- V. Filmic representations of literatures for young people
- VI. Issues of Creativity and Audience in Writings for and by Children

9. COURSE INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES (CILOs)

CILO	By the end of the course, students should be able to:
CILO 1	Analyze the development of children's literature as a genre
CILO 2	Specify the social, political, literary and cultural events impinging on writing for and about children from the nineteenth century up to the present
CILO 3	Assess currents of thought in course texts and to explore the manner of their expression
CILO 4	Examine a variety of literatures for and about children and, where appropriate for the comparison of literary texts in an informed and coherent manner
CILO 5	Evaluate the importance of children's literature for (school) educational purposes
CILO 6	Differentiate children's literature from other literary types

10. TEACHING & LEARNING ACTIVITIES (TLAs)

CILO alignment	Type of TLA
CILO 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Play an active role in interactive lectures to analyze the development of children's literature- Work in teams to identify and examine the universal elements in children's literature, and how it becomes a genre
CILO 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Access the library catalogue, the MLA database, and the internet to investigate different social, political, literary, cultural events and their impacts on the messages conveyed in children's literature- Collect evidence from books and other documentary sources to show how these events influence the writers of children's literature- Maintain a journal and formulate their critical views on the significances of these events- Complete group projects, initiate in-class and online discussions
CILO 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Read and analyze course texts in relation to history and currents of thoughts- Do group projects, give oral and written presentations and assess how the changing themes and manners of expression in children's literature create or react to new currents of thought
CILO 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Form reading groups, do extensive reading, juxtapose different texts in order to examine a wide variety of literatures for and about children- Write short essays, blog entries and/or give an oral presentation on the representation of children in these texts- Collect literary data and argue how, in children's stories, the concept of "childhood" changes across time and space- Take quizzes and produce a research essay to systematize their understanding of children's stories

CILO 5	- Do cumulative projects, and collect information on what children's stories have been selected in local schools and for what pedagogical purposes - Evaluate the themes of children's stories and relate them to classroom pedagogy
CILO 6	- Chart and categorize the unique characteristics of children's literature and how it differs from other genres - Present their research findings in oral and written reports

11. ASSESSMENT METHODS (AMs)

Type of Assessment Methods	Weighting	CILOs to be addressed	Description of Assessment Tasks
Coursework	40 %	1, 3, 4, 6	Individual assignment to assess whether students understand children's literature as a genre, analyse a selected set of children's stories in light of socio-political contexts, evaluate the themes in children's literature, compare stories, and identify the social significance of children's literature.
Coursework	25 %	1, 3, 4, 6	Group assignment to assess whether students understand children's literature as a genre, analyse a selected set of children's stories in light of socio-political contexts, evaluate the themes in children's literature, compare stories, and identify the social significance of children's literature.
Examination	35 %	2, 4, 5, 6	The exam will test the students' knowledge of children's literature as a unique genre, their ability to situate children's stories in contexts, their analysis of texts, their critical comparison between texts, and their evaluation of representative texts for educational purposes.

Last Update: 2022-11-30
Published Date: 2023-01-04

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