

SYLLABUS

Literature for children and teenagers

4KAJ – double major students (2009/2010)

Lecturer: PhDr. Anna Ritlyová, PhD.

Teacher assistant: PaedDr. Miloš Blahút

Semester: summer

Number of seminars: 12

Number of weeks: 12

Course aims and description:

Lectures will be based on an introduction to the history of children's literature, illustrated from various works of children's literature, both classics and less familiar ones, presentation of the most prominent authors of children's fiction, poetry and short story, and description of various genres including fairy tales, fantasy, folk tales and myths, as well as nursery rhymes and riddles.

In the second part of the course, students will choose a work of children's literature written in English, and give a short presentation on it, discussing one or more aspects of the work with the help of a theoretical model.

1. Introduction
2. Limericks, Haiku, Tanka, Nonsense poetry, Riddles, Rhymes, Comics.
3. Lewis Carroll: Alice's Adventures in Wonderland
4. Lewis Carroll: Through the Looking Glass
5. L.Frank Baum: The Wizard of Oz
6. R. Dahl: Matilda (a book)
7. R. Dahl: Matilda (a movie)
8. A.A.Milne: Winnie-the-Pooh
9. H.Ch.Andersen: Little Match Girl
10. O.Wilde: The Happy Prince, The Nightingale and the Rose
11. Little Red Riding Hood (Brothers Grimm and Ch. Perrault versions)
12. Angela Carter: The Werewolf; James Thurber: The Secret Life of Walter Mitty; The Catbird Seat

List of literary works to choose for Reading Journal (your final work for credit week):

1. J.M.Barrie: Peter Pan
2. J.K.Rowling: Harry Potter
3. R.L.Stevenson: Treasure Island
4. J.R.Tolkien (any work)
5. Edward Lear: Book of Nonsense (poetry)
6. K.Grahame: The Wind in the Willows
7. D.Defoe: Robinson Crusoe
8. R.Kipling: The Jungle Book
9. poetry of Christina Rossetti

Course requirements and Assessment:

- Reading Journal (must be submitted by credit week)
- seminar presentation
- oral exam based on lectures
- participation at seminars

Reading Journal contains:

- Ø 3 activities suitable for pupils/students and their application
- Ø analysis of the work – close reading of the book, i.e. setting, characters, narrators, style, themes, diction, point of view, biographical information, intercultural links plus students understanding of the work - Is the work suitable for pupils/students? Give reasons. What are the strengths or weaknesses of the work? Comment on the layout of the book (length, pictures)

Follow MLA style or ISO 690 norm, must be double-spaced, in 12-point Times New Roman font

LINKS:

<http://www.sabian.org/alice.htm>

http://www.poohfriends.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=50&Itemid=75

<http://www.literaturepage.com/read/the-happy-prince.html>
<http://www2.hn.psu.edu/faculty/jmanis/oscar-wilde/happyprince&othertales.pdf>

<http://www.wayaadisi.com/werewolf/carter.asp>

<http://www.jimcarreyonline.com/movies/thurber.html>
<http://cathy.likeafire.net/the-thurber-short-story/>

Recommended literature:

Carpenter, H. and Prichard, M.: *The Oxford Companion to Children's Literature*. OUP. 1995.

Ellis, G. and Brewster, J.: *The Storytelling Handbook*. Penguin English.

Townsend, J.R.: *Written for Children: An Outline of English Language Children's Literature*. London, 1990.

Bobulová, I. -Pokrivčáková, S. - Preložníková, E. - Příbylová, I.: *Children's and Juvenile Literature (Written in English)*. Nitra, UKF, 2003. (online:
[http://www.tekov.sk/users/grzyb/dokumenty/dokumenty/children s literature.doc](http://www.tekov.sk/users/grzyb/dokumenty/dokumenty/children_s_literature.doc))

Pokrivčáková, S.: *Children's Literature in English*. Nitra : ASPA, 2008.