

# English 270 Children's Literature

## Course Info:

**Professor Kathy Patterson**

**Fall 2023 online with four meetings via zoom: 8/22; 10/3; 10/10; 11/28 6pm-9pm**

**Section 29295 available on Canvas**

**Successful Student aka Office Hours: by appointment on zoom or phone; T 2-4 especially open to zoom appts.**

## **Santa Ana College English Department's Mission Statement:**

The Santa Ana College English Department provides numerous opportunities for our students to develop and improve the reading, critical thinking, and writing skills required to succeed at their chosen careers, to meet the rigors of the writing demands at four-year transfer institutions, and to foster lifelong learning and an appreciation of literature.

## **Student Learning Outcomes to be achieved by the end of this class:**

1. Students will be able to identify major authors and works of children's literature as well as the conventions specific to each major genre: picture books, poetry, traditional literature, drama, non-fiction, and fiction.
2. Students will demonstrate proficiency in using standard written English.
3. Students will demonstrate proficiency in integrating and documenting primary and secondary sources in MLA format.

## **Required Texts in the order needed:**

*Essentials of Children's Literature*. 9th Ed. Short, Lynch Brown et al isbn 978013453292

*Folk and Fairy Tales*. 5th ed. Hallett and Karasek isbn 9781554813650

*Protector of the Small: First Test* by Tamora Pierce isbn 9780375829055

*Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* by JK Rowling isbn 9780590353427

*The Graveyard Book* by Neil Gaiman isbn 9780060530945

*Number the Stars* by Lois Lowry isbn 0440403278

*The Crossover* by Kwame Alexander isbn 9781328575494

*Lucky Broken Girl* by Ruth Behar isbn 9780399546440

*The Port Chicago 50* by Steve Sheinken isbn 9781250073495

\*\*\*Please note that most of the novels are available at libraries and in used book format. *Folk and Fairy Tales* and *Essentials of Children's Lit* are available for rent and also available as e-book versions

### **Recommended Texts:**

*Where the Wild Things Are* by Maurice Sendak isbn 978-0064431781

D'Aulaire's *Greek Myths* isbn 978-0440406945 If you want to start your library, get this book. Otherwise, I have the relevant material for you in pdf form. You do not have to buy this book.

### **Communicating with me:**

School email: [patterson\\_kathy@sac.edu](mailto:patterson_kathy@sac.edu)

Available for appointments made through Canvas inbox and email; email responses are generally given within 48 hours, often sooner; IF you do not hear back from me within 48 hours, be sure to send me another email (and check to see that your original did send!) I will be checking the Canvas inbox and SAC email frequently. I will also check our **Student Lounge and Professor Question Discussion Board** often, as should you. See if you can help your friends in our online 270 community.

### **Official Course Description:**

A study of literature for children emphasizing the history, trends, issues, and evaluation of all major genres: picture books, poetry, drama, traditional literature, non-fiction, and fiction, including full-length works.

### **My Version of our Course Description:**

This course introduces us to literature for children, its history, and the range of genres that make up this fascinating and significant literature. Through a variety of class activities, discussion and reading, we will learn how to identify different genres within children's literature, such as picture books, traditional, realistic, and fantasy fiction, and as we explore texts from both an adult's and a child's perspective, we will learn how to evaluate works from a literary analytical view that moves beyond the "I liked it" stage. We will also discuss ways works could be used in the classroom. There is something magical about children's literature—what other reading material can literally get read to pieces? I know that some of the best ice-breaker conversations that I have had began with favorite children's books—they stay with us for a lifetime. I've chosen several texts: one textbook that is a handy guide to how to read and identify children's literature with several resources for teachers and lists of suitable children's literature; *Where the Wild Things Are*, widely recognized as one of the greatest picture storybooks ever; a collection of Greek myths; a collection of traditional folk and fairy tales that also contains critical analyses of those

works; six novels that span the past few decades and different genres of fiction and one non-fictional book that reads like a novel. Many of our texts are award-winning. You will be required to write three analytical papers (one that focuses upon both the visual and textual elements of children's picture story books, one on traditional literature that may be a creative reworking of a tale, and one on a novel using documentation and research). You will also take two exams in class; the final is not cumulative. In addition, you will be a member of a group that will prepare a presentation on a fairy/folk tale and one that will present information about diversity in children's literature other than ethnic diversity, researching resources available to help us understand that diversity category and what books exist for children of different ages that will address that category of diversity (such as neurodivergence). There will be weekly reading quizzes. You may retake each quiz once for a better grade.

Discussion boards may require you to be creative and tap into your childlike side as you work to understand the material.

### **Requirements:**

**\*Attendance and Participation:** Each week, you will be given a module to complete. A missed module--not doing the discussion and quiz or other content--counts as an "absence." More than two absences will be grounds to drop you from the course. The inbox in Canvas allows you to contact anyone in our class. Of course, you can always leave me an inbox or email or voice mail message, and I will get back to you as soon as possible, but inbox or email is generally faster for responses.

**\*NO-SHOW:** If you do not complete the first quiz on the syllabus as well as the first Discussion's Introductory Response, your response (not to peers) by Saturday, noon, you will be considered a NO-SHOW. It is not fair to those who wish to add the class to be left hanging by students who are not intending to take the class seriously. I will drop no-shows in the afternoon of Monday.

**\*Reading Assignments:** All readings need to be done for the week; discussion of the readings is vital to our class, so you must be prepared to share ideas, pose questions, answer questions, take quizzes, and/or do exercises related to the readings. If you are a slow reader, get started on the novels now while the reading is lighter and take good notes for the future.

**\*Writing Assignments:** You will be required to perform some writing tasks this semester, and as English 101 was a prerequisite, I am assuming that you can execute the organization of your ideas in a coherent, complete, grammatically correct paper that follows the standards of formal college English writing. (Yes, you need a thesis! Yes, you must have paragraphs!) The papers must be typed and turned in to turn-it-in on our Canvas. More explanation with assignments to follow. Please follow the MLA format.

- Papers are to be double-spaced from top to bottom, *with no extra spaces between paragraphs, the heading and the title, or anywhere else!* Be sure to reset the "spacing after paragraph" setting to zero—the "factory" setting is 0.5 now, so you must override it. Use one-inch margins all around.

- Do not use a cover sheet or title page; simply type a heading in the upper left-hand corner consisting of your name on line one, *Patterson* on line two, *English 270* on line three, and the due date on line four, day, month, year order.
- All essays must have an interesting title that is centered.
- Pages are to be numbered using a header with your last name and page number in the upper right corner of the page. Font size is to be no larger than 12 pt; use a normal font such as Times New Roman or Arial.
- Do not italicize or capitalize your entire paper.
- Screenshot or download pages used from secondary sources (anything that is not a primary, assigned text for the class), and attach to the file for the paper before you turn it in. You can also turn it in as a separate document in Canvas assignment..

### **\*Quizzes**

- May be taken twice, total.
- The highest score will stand.
- You must make the first attempt at a quiz by the due date, or it will count towards absences.

### **\*Late Policy:**

You may not make up any work missed in zoom sessions unless specifically cleared by me in advance of your absence. I understand that sometimes life's events get in the way, so I will allow you to turn in **one and only one of the first two out-of-class essays late**, to be turned in within 7 days of the original due date, with no penalty. No other late papers will be accepted. Exams may be made up for compelling, documented reasons. Discussion posts will earn half credit if late but posted before the discussion closes, usually two days after the responses are due.

### **\*Disabilities:**

Your success in this course is important to me. Santa Ana College and I are committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all individuals with disabilities. If you have a disability that may have some impact on your ability to do well in this course, I encourage you to speak with me as soon as possible. Also, please contact Disabled Student Programs & Services so that we can all collaborate on your classroom accommodations in a timely manner. DSP&S is located in JSC-108, and their phone number is 714-564-6295. The DSP&S office requires documentation of your disability in order [for you] to receive reasonable accommodations. If you do not have documentation, they will work with you to acquire it. I look forward to supporting you to meet your learning goals. They have live chat remote service as well as in person appointments Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

### **\*Academic Integrity and Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is the act of presenting the words, work, or opinions of someone else as if they were the original work of the submitter. These may be the product of another student or a professional writer or be from any source, whether the author is known or unknown, i.e. encyclopedia,

magazine, textbook, models used by instructors, or websites or Internet sites. Plagiarism is a form of cheating and is also a breach of copyright laws in the case of published works. Anything on the Internet is considered published material. Any grammar handbook or composition textbook has chapters that define plagiarism and instruct students how to document and cite appropriately any sources to which they are indebted, be they in a footnote, parenthesis, or quotation whether in a paper, oral presentation, or exam. IF YOU FEEL THE NEED TO GO TO A WEBSITE TO “SEE WHAT IT SAYS ABOUT THE WORK,” that is fine. IF YOU USE THAT INFORMATION IN WRITING, EVEN IN A JOURNAL, EVEN IF YOU “PUT IT IN YOUR OWN WORDS,” YOU NEED TO CITE IT! I don’t really need to know what SparkNotes, Gradesaver, Shmoop, eNotes, Wikipedia, Course Hero, Kibn, Thoughtco, or other websites say about the texts—I want to know what YOU have to say about the texts. JUST CITE YOUR SOURCE! Use an attribution/signal phrase such as “According to the website Shmoop.com’s analysis of *A Fabulous Novel* by fantastic author xyz,” OR put the website citation in a parenthetical citation at the end of your sentence, after the paraphrased or quoted material. It is that easy. Please do not let it happen to you. I can help you avoid it--just ask! I promise that you are smart enough to do these assignments without websites.

Do not use AI, paraphrasing apps, Grammarly.com, or any other "rephraser." Your work must be your own. Several of you are retaking this course. Do not turn in papers that you have previously turned in to an English 270 class. That is called self-plagiarism. Do a new paper on a new topic. Otherwise, it will trigger a plagiarism percentage from Turnitin.com.

**\*\*Should you engage in plagiarism or any other academically dishonest conduct such as cheating on exams, stealing tests, or otherwise disregarding established classroom procedures, you will receive an “F” on the assignment and a written reprimand for violating district rules (the Academic Misconduct Incident Report) will be sent to the Humanities and Social Sciences Division Dean, the Dean of Students, and you, the student. You may be removed from the class or receive an “F” in the course if the academic review warrants it. A second incident will result in an "F" in the course and a written reprimand (the Academic Misconduct Incident Report).** Please refer to the student conduct guidelines in our Canvas module one if you have any questions about what constitutes acceptable student conduct at the college. This statement in the syllabus constitutes your official warning of my policy on academic dishonesty. I want to stress to you that all work done for this course must be your own. One function of the college is to train students in independent thinking. Don’t risk a failed course by resorting to plagiarism. By staying in this section of English 270, you are consenting to abide by the referenced standards and this syllabus.

#### **\*Title IX:**

Title IX is a federal civil rights law that prohibits sex discrimination in education. This includes sexual harassment, sexual assault, and rape. Violations of Title IX, as well as violence or threats of violence on campus or online, are taken very seriously so that victims are provided with proper support and violators are properly disciplined. As a faculty member, I am required by law to report all such violations. If you have been a victim of sexual misconduct and would prefer to talk to someone confidentially, I encourage you to take advantage of the psychological services offered at SAC’s Health and Wellness Center. You can contact the Center at (714) 564-6216.

## **\*Services Available to Help You**

Please see our services under the Resources tab in Canvas. The most important to you are the Learning Center and Computing Center as well as Neally Library. Each has its own page in our course.

## **\*Learning Center**

The goal of the Learning Center is to provide all students with academic support in an inviting and contemporary environment. The staff of the Learning Center is carefully selected and trained to assist students with their academic assignments, general study skills, and computer user needs. The LC is located in D-306 and is remotely available for online tutoring as well. The services that the LC provides to SAC students include tutoring, workshops, and collaborative learning. You will need to register for the LC, and there are workshops during week one to help you do so, or you can follow the instructions. I will send a weekly announcement regarding the workshops.

## **Extra Credit Opportunity:**

“Attend” a children’s book reading, like Dolly Parton’s online or watch a play designed for children; for example, South Coast Rep in Costa Mesa has children's plays every season. Then, write up a summary/reaction at least one page long for five points extra credit. You may earn 10 points of extra credit; I usually have fifteen points available.

## **Grades:**

You **must** complete all papers and exams in order to pass this course. Your papers and exams will be graded on a standard percentage scale:

100-90=A 89-80=B 79-70=C 69-60=D 59-0=F

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|--|-----------------|
| <b>Participation in Discussion Boards:</b> | <b>180 pts</b>  |
| <b>Exams 2@100 each</b>                    | <b>200 pts</b>  |
| <b>Papers 2@ 50 pts, 1@100</b>             | <b>200 pts</b>  |
| <b>Homework and Quizzes</b>                | <b>90 pts</b>   |
| <b>Prewrites and Drafts</b>                | <b>20 pts</b>   |
| <b>Diversity Presentation</b>              | <b>40 pts</b>   |
| <b>Traditional Lit Presentation</b>        | <b>20 pts</b>   |
| <b>Course Total</b>                        | <b>=750 pts</b> |

Grade Breakdown: 750-675=A 674-600=B 599-525=C 524-450=D 449-0=F

DO NOT ASSUME THAT YOUR GRADE IN GRADEBOOK IS THE CORRECT GRADE! IT DOES NOT COMPUTE PROPERLY UNTIL ALL GRADES ARE IN AND ALL ZEROS ARE LOGGED AS ZERO. Computational skills are important to cultivate. I will answer the question “What’s my grade?” if you make an appointment during student success hours to ask. You have the tools you need to figure out your own grade at any time. The points earned on assignments will always be given over a line above the points possible. You can add up all points earned and divide by points possible at that time. This gives you your percentage in the class at the point at which you are checking. Gradebook will never be wholly accurate as their system relies on averages of all in class, including those who did not turn in an assignment. Rely on yourself! Also, check to see that I recorded your work. Be certain--I am a human, not a machine. I might make a mistake. I do not mind being corrected or asked. In Canvas, the percentages do not always add up, so please do not freak out looking at Canvas. Just be sure you understand each assignment's points, and you can always, always ask me to explain point values. I do not mind.

SAVE ALL WORK UNTIL YOUR FINAL GRADE IS RECORDED IN THE SYSTEM! You have the burden of proof to show if an instructor has made an error. This is good advice for every class. You should also save all of your course outlines in case there are any troubles getting credit at your transfer institution.

### **Technological Needs:**

### **Course Site:**

- Our course can be accessed at [Canvas](#).
- You may access our Canvas course site from home, the library or the student labs at SAC.
- You can download the Canvas app for phone or tablet.
- When you are officially enrolled in the class and the class has been made available to students, you will have access to our class on the college Canvas site.
- Students are expected to monitor the Canvas site and complete all assignments in a timely manner.
- Students are expected to login at least once a day.
- Make sure the email the school has for you is the one you check regularly.
- Once you are officially enrolled in the class, you can find our course site on your Canvas dashboard. If you are new to using Canvas, you might want to check out the helpful guides at the [Canvas Student Resources page](#) on the SAC website. You might also wish to take the Student Orientation too.

### ***Required Technology***

- COMPUTER, CAMERA, MICROPHONE, and INTERNET ACCESS:

To successfully complete this course, you will need to have access to a computer with Internet. It is best to use the current version Firefox or Google Chrome browsers. If you have any trouble

logging in, or with Canvas, you can try changing your password in Self Service to see if that might resolve an initial problem with logging in to the course. You may also check the Help button on your dashboard navigation menu in Canvas (the circle with a question mark in it) that has links to articles I have found helpful and the phone number for their 24/7 free support line: (844) 612-7428. Even when they say there are many people ahead of you, the line moves quickly, and the help is good.

- ADOBE READER: This software is free and is best for reading PDFs, so you may want to download it if you do not already have it.
- Flash Drive: you should have one to keep all of your work on so that just in case something happens, you always have a copy. I highly recommend the fold-over type to protect the drive.

### **SAC MISSION STATEMENT**

**Santa Ana College inspires, transforms, and empowers a diverse community of learners.**