

ENGL 340: Children's Literature

Dr. Kelly C. Walter Carney

Office: Scott 205

Fall 2005kcwaltercarney@vanguard.edu

Office Hours: M 11:00-2:00. F 11:00-12:00

Grades for this class will be based on:

Attendance and Participation:	25	Reading Quizzes:	50
Weekly papers (10x10):	100	Author Paper and presentation:	25
Teaching guide:	25	Literature paper:	25
Total:	250		

Your ***attendance and participation*** in this class are important to your learning experience. Due to the discussion-oriented nature of this course, your thoughtful preparation will directly affect the quality of the class for all of us. After one absence, your grade will begin to drop. If you miss more than 20% of our class meetings (that is, upon your 2nd absence), you will automatically fail the course. This includes all absences of any type. Late arrival or early departure from class counts as half an absence.

Weekly Papers: Each week, students will be assigned a short (250-500 word) writing project based on the next week's reading; these assignments may involve research. These typed, MLA-format papers should be handed in at the beginning of class each week. All work will be graded on structure, grammar and syntax, and content.

Teaching guide: choose a children's text (not YA) from the list approved for use in California schools (www.cde.ca.gov/literaturelist/litsearch.asp). Create a teaching guide following the pattern that appears at www.sdcoe.k12.ca.us/score/cyberguide.html. Submit your word document electronically by noon on 10 October. E-mail your assignment as an attached document to vugrading@yahoo.com.

Reading Quizzes: Each class will begin with a short quiz on the reading assigned for that session. Careful reading of the assignments (literature and Nodelman) is necessary to do well on these quizzes.

Children's Culture Paper and Presentation: Students will choose an element of children's culture and write a 5-7 page paper analyzing the "text", taking into account Nodelman 5 and 8 to analyze the ideological position promoted through it. Elements of children's culture could include toys, authors, books, parks, museums, websites, plays, shops, films, cereals, commercials, television shows, extra-curricular classes or other materials aimed at pre-teens. Students are expected to make a 10-15 minute presentation of what they have learned, including a handout for the class. Paper due electronically as described above by noon on 14 November; presentations will be in class on that day.

Literature paper: Students will write a literary analysis (using one of the modes of literary analysis described in Nodelman 10) of any of our readings. This 1250-1750 word (5-7 page) MLA-format paper is due electronically, as described above, by noon on 5 December.

Late work is strongly discouraged. All take-home materials (papers, worksheets) will drop a letter grade for each calendar day that they are late. Make-up exams are at the discretion of the instructor.

Plagiarism is a form of theft that I take very seriously. In my classes, the first instance of plagiarism generally results in a failing grade for that assignment; further plagiarism can cause you to fail the class and/or be reported to the dean's office.

According to the *Student Handbook*, "Either cheating or plagiarism (presenting as one's own, the words or opinions or others). is regarded as a serious violation of both the academic and moral standards of VUSC.... The dean of the program and the Vice President for Student Affairs are to be notified in instances of academic dishonesty.

A student commits plagiarism if submitted as his/her work: Part or all of an assignment copied from another person's assignment, notes, or computer file. Part or all of an assignment copied or paraphrased from a book, magazine, pamphlet, or website. A sequence of ideas transferred from another source which the student has not digested, integrated and reorganized and to which he /she fails to give proper acknowledgement.

A student is an accomplice in plagiarism if he/she: Allows his/her paper or other assignment, in outline or finished form, to be copied and submitted as the work of another. Lends his/her computer disk to another student or otherwise allows his/her computer files to be copied for the purposes of plagiarism. Prepares a written assignment for another student and allows it to be submitted as another's work" (61-62).

The **books for this class** include: Nodelman, Perry and Mavis Reimer, *The Pleasures of Children's Literature*; Prelutsky, Jack, *The Random House Book of Poetry for Children: A Treasury of 572 Poems for Today's Child*; Stevenson, Robert Louis, *Treasure Island*; Burnett, Frances Hodgson, *A Little Princess*; Creech, Sharon., *Love That Dog*; Curtis, Christopher Paul, *Bud, Not Buddy*; Lowry, Lois, *Number the Stars*; Paterson, Katherine, *Bridge to Terabithia*; Schulman, Janet, *20th Century Children's Book Treasury*, and Zipes, Jack, et.al. *The Norton Anthology of Children's Literature*. Please purchase and read all texts.

This syllabus is tentative and may be changed by the instructor at any time.

Course Schedule:

M 29 August	Nodelman 1 Course Introduction
5 September	Nodelman 2, 3 Schulman, Janet. <i>20th Century Children's Book Treasury</i>
12 September	Nodelman 4 Lowry, Lois. <i>Number the Stars</i>
19 September	Nodelman 9 Curtis, Christopher Paul. <i>Bud, Not Buddy</i>
26 September	Nodelman 10 Paterson, Katherine. <i>Bridge to Terabithia</i>
3 October	Nodelman 5,6 Sharon Creech, <i>Love That Dog</i>
10 October	Nodelman 7 Zipes, Jack, et al. <i>The Norton Anthology of Children's Literature 1746-1804</i> Teaching Guide Due

- 17 October Nodelman 8
Stevenson, Robert Louis. *Treasure Island*
- 24 October Nodelman 8
Burnett, Frances Hodgson. *A Little Princess*
- 31 October Nodelman 11
Prelutsky, Jack. *The Random House Book of Poetry for Children: A Treasury of 572 Poems for Today's Child*
Zipes, Jack, et al. *The Norton Anthology of Children's Literature*
- 7 November Nodelman 12
Schulman, Janet. *20th Century Children's Book Treasury*
- 14 November Nodelman 13
Zipes, Jack, et al. *The Norton Anthology of Children's Literature*
Children's Culture Presentations
- 21 November Zipes, Jack, et al. *The Norton Anthology of Children's Literature*
- 28 November Zipes, Jack, et al. *The Norton Anthology of Children's Literature*
- 5 December Zipes, Jack, et al. *The Norton Anthology of Children's Literature*
Literature Paper Due