# **WAYLAND BAPTIST UNIVERSITY**

**Virtual Campus**

**School of Languages and Literature**

**Wayland Baptist University Mission Statement:** Wayland Baptist University exists to educate students in an academically challenging, learning-focused and distinctively Christian environment for professional success, and service to God and humankind.

**Course Name:** ENGL 3303 Studies in English: Children’s Literature

**Term and Year: Summer 2020**

**Full Name of Instructor: Dr. Kimberlee Mendoza**

**Office Phone and WBU Email Address: (806) 291-1106; mendozak@wbu.edu**

**Office Hours, Building, and Location:** M-F, 8:00-4:00, GH 200

**Class Meeting Time and Location:** Online

**Catalog Description:** Topics vary to include subjects, genres, or themes not exclusively covered in other English courses. May be repeated once when topics change. This particular course will study Children’s Literature.

**Prerequisite:** **Advanced standing**

**Required Textbook and Resources**:

Get e-book through the bookstore or purchase hardcopy:

* Dr. Seuss. *The Cat & the Hat* ISBN: 978-0375834929
* Munsch, Robert & Shela McGraw. *Love You Forever.* ISBN: 978-0920668375
* O’Dell, Scott. *Island of the Blue Dolphins*. ISBN: 978-0547328614

Links provided:

* Exupery, Antoine. *The Little Prince.* <https://verse.aasemoon.com/images/f/f5/The_Little_Prince.pdf>
* Martin & Archambault. *Chicka-Chicka-Boom Boom.* <https://www.dailymotion.com/video/x3t2gkd>
* Nursery Rhymes: <https://www.thebump.com/a/nursery-rhymes>
* Grimm, Wilhelm & Jacob Grimm. <https://www.worldoftales.com/fairy_tales/Grimm_fairy_tales.html>
* Andersen, Hans Christian. <https://www.worldoftales.com/fairy_tales/Andersen_fairy_tales.html> (click on books below)
* Silverstein, Shel. *The Giving Tree.* <https://www.moralstories.org/the-giving-tree/>
* Aesop’s Fables. <http://www.taleswithmorals.com/>
* MacDonald, Betty. *Hello, Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle:* <https://www.dramaticpublishing.com/media/pdf/excerpts/exHelloMrsPiggleWiggleHG5.pdf>
* Various kids’ poems. <https://www.familyfriendpoems.com/poems/children/>

**Course Outcome Competencies:** Although the outcomes may vary according to the topic(s) selected for the semester, upon the conclusion of this course students actively engaged in learning will be able to:

1. Describe the distinct characteristics of the subject, genre, or theme selected for the course, and demonstrate how the subject, genre, or theme is connected to major literary movements.

2. Connect major world events to the subject, genre, or theme selected for the course.

3. Demonstrate the ability to read critically and communicate persuasively about the works selected.

4. Discuss the overall topic for the course and suggest how this topic is represented in each of the select pieces.

5. Conduct research on a topic related to a select piece of literature, articulate and support a thesis, and follow through with appropriate documentation.

The more the student puts into the course, the higher his or her outcome competencies will be.

**Attendance Requirements:** As stated in the Wayland Catalog, students enrolled at one of the University’s external campuses should make every effort to attend all class meetings.  All absences must be explained to the instructor, who will then determine whether the omitted work may be made up.  When a student reaches that number of absences considered by the instructor to be excessive, the instructor will so advise the student and file an unsatisfactory progress report with the campus executive director.  Any student who misses 25 percent or more of the regularly scheduled class meetings may receive a grade of F in the course.  Additional attendance policies for each course, as defined by the instructor in the course syllabus, are considered a part of the University’s attendance policy.

**Statement on Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty:** Wayland Baptist University observes a zero tolerance policy regarding academic dishonesty. Per university policy as described in the academic catalog, all cases of academic dishonesty will be reported and second offenses will result in suspension from the university.

**Disability Statement**: “In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), it is the policy of Wayland Baptist University that no otherwise qualified person with a disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any educational program or activity in the university.  The Coordinator of Counseling Services serves as the coordinator of students with a disability and should be contacted concerning accommodation requests at (806) 291- 3765.  Documentation of a disability must accompany any request for accommodations.”

**Course Requirements and Grading Criteria:**

# POINTS MATRIX

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Assignment** | **Possible Points** | **Date Due** | |
| Personal Response | 70 | Week 1 | |
| Nursery Rhyme Essay | 75 | Week 2 | |
| Fairytale Compare & Contrast | 100 | Week 3 | |
| Kid’s Moral Story | 75 | Week 4 | |
| Life Lesson Presentation | 75 | Week 5 | |
| Poem Summary | 75 | Week 6 | |
| Dr. Seuss Research Paper | 100 | Week 7 | |
| Literature Review Essay | 100 | Week 8 | |
| Tall Tales Summary | 75 | Week 9 | |
| Personal Reflection | 70 | Week 10 | |
| Discussion (11x10) | 110 | Each week | |
| Final Reflection | 75 | Week 11 | |
| Total Points | 1000 | Grade |  |

**Following statement must be included following Course requirements and grading criteria:**

**“Students shall have protection through orderly procedures against prejudices or capricious academic evaluation. A student who believes that he or she has not been held to realistic academic standards, just evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course by using the student grade appeal process described in the Academic Catalog. Appeals may not be made for advanced placement examinations or course bypass examinations. Appeals are limited to the final course grade, which may be upheld, raised, or lowered at any stage of the appeal process. Any recommendation to lower a course grade must be submitted through the Executive Vice President/Provost to the Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee for review and approval. The Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee may instruct that the course grade be upheld, raised, or lowered to a more proper evaluation.”**

**Tentative Schedule**:

# WEEK 1 ~ INTRODUCTION TO CHILDREN’S LITERATURE

**Watch:** Introduction Lecture

**Read:** Start reading *the Island of the Blue Dolphins*

**Discussion:** What is your favorite children’s book or story of all time and why did you like it? Watch my lecture and then comment on anything that stands out or you would like to discuss further.

**Assignment:** Write a personal response paper about children’s literature. Here are some optional questions you could use, but you may answer your own: What is the value of an adult studying children’s literature? Has children’s literature changed over the years, for better or worse? Did you grow up reading stories, and do you have any favorites? Explain why. How important is it to read to your kids? This paper is an opinion piece, and doesn’t need any citations. The paper should be double-spaced, TimesNewRoman, 12-point font. It should be at least 2-pages. If you use any references, be sure to cite in MLA or APA.

# WEEK 2 ~ NURSERY RHYMES

**Watch:** Lectures on Nursery Rhymes

**Read:** Nursery Rhymes (link); continue reading *the Island of the Blue Dolphins*

**Discussion:** What is your favorite children’s book or story of all time and why did you like it? Watch my lecture and then comment on the appropriateness of nursery rhymes for our kids. Does the history or meaning behind them change your opinion of them at all? Explain.

**Assignment:** Research the history of at least two (2) of the nursery rhymes in the reading and write a short essay (500+ words) discussing what you’ve learned. Be sure to cite the nursery rhymes in your paper (actual quotes) and include at least one other reference. It should be written in third person academic tone. It should include a strong thesis (last sentence of your introduction) that is arguable and can stand alone. May be written in MLA or APA formatting.

# WEEK 3 ~ FAIRY TALES

**Watch:** Lecture on Fairy Tales

**Read:** Grimm’s Fairy Tales & Hans Christian Andersen’s Fairy Tales (links); keep reading *the Island of the Blue Dolphins*

**Discussion:** Watch my lecture and comment on something that stood out or you want to discuss further. Then discuss the two authors we read this week. Which did you prefer more? Why? Which story did you enjoy the most and why?

**Assignment:** Write a compare and contrast essay on Grimm’s and Hans Christian Andersen’s fairytales. Paper should be at least three (3) pages in length and should include specific examples, not generalized opinions. It should be written in third person academic tone. It should include a strong thesis (last sentence of your introduction) that is arguable and can stand alone. May be written in either MLA or APA formatting.

# WEEK 4 ~ MORAL LESSONS

**Watch:** Video provided

**Read:** *The Giving Tree* (link); Aesop’s Fables (link); keep reading *the Island of the Blue Dolphins*

**Discussion:** Complete the reading, then comment on *The Giving Tree* and Aesop’s Fables. (Please be specific, not generic.) Do you think children’s stories must have a moral lesson? Why or why not? Explain.

**Assignment:** Using scripture, write kid’s story with a moral lesson found in the Bible. It should not be longer than 750-words. Be creative and have fun with this. If you want to include pictures, be sure to cite any that are not your own. If you use pictures, upload it as a PDF. Be sure to double-space and give it a creative title. A link for sharing with the class will be made available, but this is not mandatory.

# WEEK 5 ~ LIFE LESSONS

**Watch:** Video provided

**Read:** *Hello Mrs. Piggle Wiggle* (link); keep reading *the Island of the Blue Dolphins*

**Discussion:** Watch video and comment on something that stood out or you want to discuss further. Complete the reading, and then comment on which *Mrs. Piggle Wiggle* story you liked the most and why?

**Assignment:** Research life lessons in children’s books and create a PowerPoint or video on the topic. What are some life lessons you learned in children’s books growing up? What are some great messages in kids’ books that you think help students learn more about life? Be sure to reference Mrs. Piggle Wiggle at least once. PowerPoints should have a minimum of 6 slides (not including reference or title slide). It should be really clear what you are trying to communicate (or have a voice over). It should be easy to read, neat, and include pictures (cite with website where you got them). It should not be walls of text, but bullets of information. Videos should be professional, void of busy background or noise, and students should dress appropriately. Sound and light should make the presentation visible and heard. It should be 3-5 minutes. You may upload the link from YouTube in a Word document. A link for sharing will be made available, but is not mandatory.

# WEEK 6 ~ POETRY

**Read:** Silverstein’s Poem “Sick” and “Snowball,” Guest’s “Being Brave at Night,” A.A. Milne’s “Wind on the Hill,” Samano’s “A Worm in my Pocket,” Stevenson’s “The Moon,” and Savage’s “When the World Turned Upside Down”

**Discussion:** Complete the reading, and then share with the class, which is your favorite poem? Research the author and share some facts about the poem or author you chose.

**Assignment:** Write 50-words or more summary on EACH poem you read this week. You may write in first person. Answer questions like: Do you like this poem? Why or why not? What is the overall message? Or is it just for fun? Is there a line that stands out to you the most? Should be double-spaced, MLA or APA format. Be sure to clearly define which poem you are discussing with a title and author’s name bolded or underlined next to each one.

# WEEK 7 ~ DR. SEUSS

**Watch:** Lecture on Dr. Seuss

**Read:** *The Cat in the Hat*; keep reading *the Island of the Blue Dolphins*

**Discussion:** Watch my lecture and comment on something that stood out or you want to discuss further. Then discuss Dr. Seuss. Did you grow up reading him? Do you have a favorite story of his and why?

**Assignment:** Write a research essay on Dr. Seuss. Paper should be 2-3 pages long and include at least two quality references (not Wikipedia). This should be written in third person academic tone, but you may write in first person in the conclusion. It should include a strong thesis (last sentence of your introduction) that is arguable and can stand alone. May be written in either MLA or APA formatting.

# WEEK 8 ~ CLASSIC TALES

**Watch:** Lecture on Classic Tales

**Read:** Finish *The Island of the Blue Dolphins*

**Discussion:** Watch my lecture and comment on something that stood out or you want to discuss further. Then discuss *The Island of the Blue Dolphins* and other classic tales, such as *Peter Pan, Charlotte’s Web, Alice Adventures in Wonderland*, *Secret Garden*, and any others that you can think of. What are some classic books that you grew up reading? All of these stories have been made into movies, and are often still read by children today. Why do you think these stories stand the test of time?

**Assignment:** Write a literary review essay on *The Island of the Blue Dolphins*. The essay must include citations from the text and additional citations. All citations must adhere to MLA or APA standards. Essay should be written in third person, academic tone. Any use of personal pronouns will be marked down (except in the conclusion). The paper should examine literary devices (plot, character, tone, symbolism, etc.) used by the author. Essay should be 900-1,200 words.

# WEEK 9 ~ TALL TALES

**Watch:**

*Pecos Bill* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9QIOZAsCxZ8&list=PL23-2rhb0FBxk8QKJGLayNr_ctNNKVdM6>

*John Henry* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kt9NSMZR0dM>

*Paul Bunyan* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O3rZUOJn5W8>

*Johnny Appleseed*: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=484AJlOnOnc>

**Read:** Starting reading *The Little Prince*

**Discussion:** Watch the various tall tales listed for this week, and comment on something that stood out or you want to discuss further. Did you grow up with other tall tales in your culture? If so, tell us about it. Why do you suppose tall tales exist?

**Assignment:** Write 75-words or more summary on EACH tale you watched this week. You may write in first person. Answer questions like: Do you like this tale? Why or why not? What is the overall message? Would this story still be written today, why or why not? What might be altered? Assignment should be double-spaced, MLA or APA format. Be sure to clearly define which poem you are discussing with a title and author’s name bolded or underlined next to each one.

# WEEK 10 ~ TWEEN & TEENS

**Watch:** Video provided

**Read:** Finish *The Little Prince*

**Discussion:** Research young adult fiction, then answer these questions: Do you think the themes in teen and young adult fiction are age appropriate (containing sex, drugs, cussing, death, etc.)? Why do you suppose a lot of the themes are dystopian and supernatural? There has been a lot of controversy over different teen topics and when they go too far. What do you think the line is, or is there one?

**Assignment:** Read *the Little Prince*, then write a personal reflection on the story. Be specific, citing the story. This may be written in first person, but not second person (you, your). The reflection should be at least 500-words or longer. It should be written in MLA or APA format.

# WEEK 11 ~ REFLECTING ON CHILDREN’S LITERATURE

**Watch:** Video provided

**Discussion:** Watch video provided and comment on something that stood out or you want to discuss further. Then discuss your experience in this class. What is your big take-a-way? What was your favorite study or story?

**Assignment:** Your first assignment was to write a paper on children’s literature. Now that you have studied it for eleven weeks, you are to write a final reflection on children’s literature. Use your paper from week one as a guide. Other questions you can use to write this paper are, but not limited to: Has your opinion changed about children’s literature? What was your favorite story or genre? And why? Do you think studying children’s literature is important? Explain. Is there anything about this experience that surprised you? Explain. The final reflection should be 3-4 pages, MLA or APA formatted. Please use citations from the various readings within your reflection (a minimum of three). You should write it in first person, but please do not use second person “you” or “your.”

Updated: KRM/03/26/2020