

The following texts are required reading for all students and will be available in paperback at the university bookstore annex.

1. Tolkien, J.R.R. - The Hobbit
2. Sutcliff, Rosemary - Warrior Scarlet
3. Larrick, Nancy, ed. - Piping Down the Valleys Wild (poetry)

The above title will be supplemented by reserve books, titles selected by students, and numerous picture books.

This class is designed to introduce students to the widely varied field of children's literature (from nursery rhymes to the more demanding fiction suitable for the upper intermediate grades). Class sessions and assignments will be devoted to exploring various reading experiences, establishing selection standards, becoming acquainted with selection aids and review sources, and finding ways of sharing and enriching literary experiences with children through storytelling, puppetry, creative drama, etc.

The course will also give attention to Canadian children's literature and current issues in children's books (such as, censorship, sexism, problem-centred books).

Though assignments will be flexible enough to allow students to pursue their special interests in children's literature, the following suggestions are representative of the kind and the amount of work possible in a session of this length.

1. Annotated bibliography of five books (intermediate level) or ten picture books. (This assignment could be extended to twice the number of titles, in which case assignment #2 would be dropped).
2. Extended critical review (c. 1500 words) of a book chosen from award lists to be distributed or title of student's choice.
3. Take-home essay review of works and topics considered.
4. Individual or group project concerned with sharing literature (storytelling, puppetry, making children's books, other)

For background on Canadian children's literature, students are encouraged to read Sheila Egoff's The Republic of Childhood. 2nd edition, Oxford Press, 1975.