

Children's Literature

English 275 Fall 2023

Instructor: Elizabeth Caulfield Felt efelt@uwsp.edu

Office hours are Tuesday and Thursday, 2-3pm in CCC 430 or by appointment.

Course Description

From the catalog: "Read, select, and present materials suitable for elementary school readers." This class focuses on middle-grade fiction, material appropriate for children in 3rd-6th grades.

Course Goals:

- (Re)discover the pleasures of reading books for children
- Recognize past and present authors of stories for children
- Explain the educational value of different genres in children's literature
- Recognize and evaluate the use of literary elements in children's literature
- Assess children's stories on the quality of writing and the needs of students
- Be familiar with issues in selecting and teaching various categories of children's books
- Apply techniques for discussing literature and incorporating literature into the classroom.

Pre-Requisites: English 101 or 150.

Text Rental:

Griffith & Frey. *Classics of Children's Literature*. 6th ed.

Norton, Donna E. *Through the Eyes of a Child: An Introduction to Children's Literature*. 8th ed.

Text Purchases: *The Wizard of Oz* (or read free online); Lit circle book options.

Masking

If you have a cold or other mild symptoms but still attend class, I hope you will wear a mask. I will certainly do this, and I encourage others to wear masks when appropriate and support those who make that decision.

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory. If you must miss a class, please contact me to find out if you can make up anything that was missed. If you get sick or have some sort of long-term emergency, please stay in touch with me.

Communication

I will use your university email account to communicate with you outside of class. Please check your email regularly. I will try to respond to your emails within 24 hours, but there may be some occasions when I am offline all weekend. If my office hours are not convenient for you, let's find a time that works for us both.

If you have questions about an assignment, do NOT email me your assignment and ask me to look at it. I am happy to meet with you during my office hours to go over any questions you may have.

Note Taking:

Textbook readings: When the semester is finished, you will return your rental textbook and no longer have access to its content. As such, I want you to take notes, so you will have that information later.

