SJSU SAN JOSÉ STATE UNIVERSITY

College of Humanities and the Arts \cdot English & Comparative Literature

Children's Literature Section 80 ENGL 112A

Spring 2023 3 Unit(s) 01/25/2023 to 05/15/2023 Modified 01/27/2023

Contact Information

Instructor(s):	Dr. Tanja Nathanael
Office Location:	Canvas/Zoom
Telephone:	Contact via email, Canvas messaging, Zoom
Email:	Tanja.Nathanael@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	By Appointment
Class Days/Time:	Course is online and asynchronous
Classroom:	Canvas

Course Description and Requisites

Study of literature for elementary and intermediate grades, representing a variety of cultures. Evaluation and selection of texts.

Prerequisite: Upper division standing.

Letter Graded

Classroom Protocols

Course Format: Online & Asynchronous

This course adopts an online delivery format. Although this course is asynchronous and does not require a weekly meeting, it is required that students check in weekly to view lectures and complete assignments. Pre-recorded lectures will be posted weekly on Canvas. To keep pace with the course, students are required to view the lectures online in a timely manner in order to gain mastery of the material. While viewing the recorded lectures, students are strongly recommended to listen carefully, pay attention, and take notes just as you would in an in-person class. To best view and access the online content, students must have consistent, reliable, high-speed internet access, using a PC or MAC or other compatible device. Please note that it is the student's responsibility to check for compatibility. Technical issues will not be considered a valid excuse for failure to view lectures or submit assignments on time. That being said, students who diligently seek help from technical support and communicate clearly with me will be allowed a grace period to resolve difficulties.

Canvas & MYSJSU Messaging

As this course is held entirely online, announcements will be made weekly to provide current information to students in the course. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through MySJSU on <u>Spartan App Portal</u> http://one.sjsu.edu to learn of any updates.

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on the Canvas Learning Management System course login website at http://sjsu.instructure.com.

For help with using Canvas see <u>Canvas Student Resources page</u> (http://www.sjsu.edu/ecampus/teachingtools/canvas/student_resources)

Other technology requirements: ZOOM

You will be required to create a <u>Zoom</u> account to participate in one-on-one conferences and group discussions. Creation of a Zoom account is free of charge.

Online Classroom Protocol

Email and Electronic Communication Etiquette

For this online course, we will do all of our writing in digital spaces—some formal, some informal. An important part of learning to be a successful student and writer is knowing what is appropriate in a given situation. An email to me, to any other faculty or staff member on campus, or to anyone in any position of authority must be respectful and professional in tone, should come from your official SJSU email account or Canvas message board, and should follow this sample format:

Subject: Request to schedule an appointment

*A subject line is always required and should clearly and briefly represent your purpose for emailing. Emails with no subject line may be mistaken as "junk mail" and may not be read.

Dear Professor Nathanael,

*Always use a formal address, such as Professor, Dr., Ms., Mr. Never use the person's first name unless you have been given explicit permission to do so. Never use informal address like "Hey, Prof!"

I am a student in your ENGL 22 class, and I would like to schedule an appointment with you to discuss my essay draft. I am having trouble with my thesis statement and hope to get your help in clarifying it. Are you available to meet this Wednesday afternoon?

*State your question, concern, or request briefly and clearly, using standardized English. Maintain a polite, respectful tone and avoid using exclamation points, emoticons, texting abbreviations, or coarse language. Avoid asking questions that are answered on the syllabus or assignment page, such as "When is our paper due?" or "What is our homework for tomorrow?" Emails that are not professional in style or tone, or that ask questions that are clearly answered on the syllabus or assignment sheets, may be ignored.

Thank you,

*Use a formal closing, such as "Sincerely," "Respectfully," "Thank you," or "Best regards."

Martha Jones

*Always sign your full name at the end of your email. Include your student ID and course number as a courtesy if you are not using Canvas messages.

Program Information

The following statement has been adopted by the Department of English for inclusion in all syllabi: In English Department Courses, instructors will comment on and grade the quality of student writing as well as the quality of ideas being conveyed. All student writing should be distinguished by correct grammar and punctuation, appropriate diction and syntax, and well-organized paragraphs. The Department of English reaffirms its commitment to the differential grading scale as defined in the SJSU Catalog ("The Grading System").

Grades issued must represent a full range of student performance:

- A = excellent;
- B = above average;
- C = average;
- D = below average;
- F = failure.

Within any of the letter grade ranges (e.g. B+/B/B-), the assignment of a +(plus) or -(minus) grade will reflect stronger (+) or weaker (-) completion of the goals of the assignment.

Program Learning Outcomes (PLO)

Upon successful completion of an undergraduate degree program in the Department of English and Comparative Literature, students will be able to:

- 1. Read closely in a variety of forms, styles, structures, and modes, and articulate the value of close reading in the study of literature, creative writing, or rhetoric.
- 2. Show familiarity with major literary works, genres, periods, and critical approaches to British, American, and World Literature.
- 3. Write clearly, effectively, and creatively, and adjust writing style appropriately to the content, the context, and nature of the subject.
- 4. Develop and carry out research projects, and locate, evaluate, organize, and incorporate information effectively.
- 5. Articulate the relations among culture, history, and texts, including structures of power.

Department Information:

Department Name: English and Comparative Literature Department Office: FO 102 Department Website: <u>www.sjsu.edu/english (https://www.sjsu.edu/english)</u> Department email: <u>english@sjsu.edu (mailto:english@sjsu.edu)</u> Department phone number: 408-924-4425

Ourse Goals

Course Description

English 112A is an upper division course designed to introduce the literature of childhood experience to adult readers. Although children are the central characters and the targeted readers, writers of this genre still structure their works using the same complex literary devices and themes found in adult literature. We will therefore apply standard literary techniques in analyzing the readings for this class.

Course Theme

Crossing Borders: Contemporary Children's Literature from the Periphery

During this course students acquire an understanding of how children's literature functions in an international context and how cultural diversity may be reflected in children's books. This course will focus on a range of contemporary transnational literatures, either originating from or set in various locales around the world. In the study of these texts, students will gain insight into diverse human experiences, helping to broaden their perspectives by offering windows into other cultures. Thematically, we will focus on borders and how by crossing borders or though the journey itself protagonists strengthen or redefine individual, cultural, and national identities. Furthermore, students will be introduced to concepts and contexts that define borders as physical spaces (such as mountains, seas, outer space), ideological spaces (such as national borders), conceptual spaces (such as the past, the future), and imaginary spaces (such as myth, fantasy). With these concepts in mind, texts will be evaluated as literature with the goal of building greater cross-cultural understanding.

The course is designed to meet the subject matter requirement for those considering a teaching credential. The information and curriculum approaches we will explore should be helpful for elementary, middle, and/or secondary levels of instruction. Nevertheless, this is a literature, not an educational methodology course.

Course Materials

Required Texts/Readings

Seven novels plus selected short stories and picture books. Other Non-fiction essays and video TED Talks as assigned. See individual modules and weekly assignments for details. All of the novels listed below are available in e-book and paperback editions through the campus bookstore or other online venues.

Novels

Bredsdorff, Bodil. The Crow-girl: The Children of Crow Cove (Denmark; 1993)

ISBN-13: 978-0374400033

Fleischman, Paul. Seedfolks (U.S.A.; 1997)

ISBN-13: 978-0064472074

Ihimaera, Witi. Whale Rider (New Zealand; 1987)

ISBN-13: 978-0435131081

Iwaoka, Hisae. Saturn Apartments, Vol. 1 (Japan; 2005)

ISBN-13: 978-1421533643

Magnason, Andri Snaer. *The Story of the Blue Planet* (Iceland; 2000) ISBN-13: 978-1609805067 Selected short stories will be available on the author's website.

Pausewang, Gudrun. Traitor (Germany; 1995)

ISBN-13: 978-0761365716

E-copies of this text will be available through the university library.

Rushdie, Salmon. Haroun and the Sea of Stories (India; 1990)

ISBN-13: 978-0140157376

Picture Books

A selection from the following picture books will be provided in .PDF format or online links. <u>No purchase required</u>. Translations will be provided where needed.

My Little Round House. Written and Illustrated by Bolormaa Baasansuren (Mongolia; 2009).

I Know Here by Laurel Croza. Illustrated by Matt James (Canada; 2010).

The Blue Sky. Written and Illustrated by Andrea Petrlik Huseinović (Croatia; 2001).

Nei! sagði litla skrímslið (No! Said Little Monster) by Áslaug Jónsdóttir, Rakel Helmsdal & Kalle Güettler (Faroe-Iceland; 2004).

Memories of Survival. Written by Esther Nisenthal Krinitz and Bernice Steinhardt. Illustrated by Esther Nisenthal Krinitz (Poland-U.S.; 2005).

Ziba Came on a Boat. Written by Liz Lofthouse. Illustrated by Robert Ingpen (Afghanistan-Australia; 2007).

Herr Meier und Herr Müller. Written and Illustrated by Birte Müller (Germany; 2001).

Mohammed's Journey: A Refugee Diary. Written by Anthony Robinson and Anne-Marie Young. Illustrated by June Allan (Iraq-U.K.; 2009).

Migrant. Written by Maxine Trottier. Illustrated by Isabelle Arsenault (Mexico-Canada; 2011).

The Park in the Dark. Written by Martin Waddell. Illustrated by Barbara Firth (U.K.; 1989).

Library Liaison

Peggy Cabrera

Email: peggy.cabrera@sjsu.edu

Course Requirements and Assignments

Course Requirements and Assignments

NOTE: "Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally three hours per unit per week) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course related activities, including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus." In other words, expect to dedicate about 10 hours per week to this course. See breakdown of grading and assignment descriptions below.

Course assignments (described in detail below) will consist of three module quizzes, one essay, one team project, one book talk, weekly "side trips" (participation credit), and one final exam.

Description of Assignments Team Project: Mapping a Literary Text (10 points total)

Working in teams of three or four, students will a collaborative mapping project using texts assigned in Module 1. Student teams will be expected to set up a regular meeting schedule to discuss a project plan, assigned roles, and expected outcomes. Student teams may utilize email, phone calls, and Zoom to conduct their meetings, depending on individual schedules. Students will be graded individually on their roles as a team member and their contribution to the overall project. Grading criteria will include: 1) analysis of overall project and team process; 2) analysis of individual contribution to project; 3) analysis of another group project. Formal assignment prompts and grading rubrics will be distributed at the time the project is assigned. Student teams will confirm their project plan with the instructor. The Team Project will be due at the conclusion of Module 1. (PLO 3-5)

Short Essay (10 points total; 4 pages, or approx. 1000 words required)

Students will demonstrate their ability to critically evaluate literature and defend a position in a four page critical essay. Some additional research will be required and essays must quote from credible academic sources with citations. Successful essays will have a clear thesis, present ideas in an organized, logical, and coherent form, and use Standard English grammar, punctuation, spelling, and usage. Formal assignment prompts and grading rubrics will be distributed at the time the essays are assigned. The essay will be due at the conclusion of Module 2. (PLO 1-5)

Book Talks (10 points total)

Students are required to research <u>one</u> international picture book <u>not assigned in class</u> and present a 10-minute Book Talk to their peers. In their Book Talks, students will provide brief biographical information about the author and artist, some cultural background about the country/culture in which the book is published, any interesting textual history about the publication of the book, a summary of the book's contents and plot, an evaluation of the text, and a recommendation about pairing that text with others we have read for use in teaching a course along with a connection to course themes. Every student will present one Book Talk in a recorded video format on Canvas. PowerPoint is recommended. A sample Book Talk, prompt, and a rubric will be distributed on Canvas upon assignment. Book Talk books do not need to be purchased, but may be ordered from the library. Book Talk books must be approved by the instructor. Book Talks will be due at the conclusion of Module 3. (PLO 1, 2, 4, 5)

Side Trips (10 points; 3 or 4 activities required per module)

Side Trips consist of a selection of small activities in which the student may demonstrate additional knowledge or skills based on the current module's assignments. The completion of one Side Trip = one badge. Over the 16 week semester, students are required to achieve 10 badges for 10 points. However, students may earn more badges to gain additional "extra credit" rewards, such as raising a quiz or essay grade. Activities include: illustrating a text, watching and responding to a TED Talk, responding to a scholarly article, and more. See Side Trips in Canvas for more details. (GELO 1-4, CLO 1-2)

Participation ("Citizen" Badges; 25 minimum required for 25 points)

In addition to the Side Trips listed above, students must complete a selection of required assignments marked "Citizen." These assignments are necessary for the successful completion of the course. Such assignments include workshops, opening and closing reflections, and a student conference appointment with the instructor held on Zoom. (PLO 1-5)

Module Quizzes (15 points; 3 quizzes at 5 points each)

Module quizzes will be taken online in Canvas and will be available during a seven day window at the conclusion of each module (see

schedule for details). Once the window is closed, no one may take the exam except with a university approved excuse (illness, etc.) Module quizzes will consist of 10 questions at one half point (0.5) each. Module quizzes will contain a selection of matching, multiple choice, short answer questions. Study guides and practice quizzes will be available. (PLO 2)

Final Examination (20 points)

The Final Exam will be taken online in Canvas and will be available during a seven day window during Finals Week. Once the window is closed, no one may take the exam except with a university approved excuse (illness, etc.) The Final will consist of 20 questions at one point each. The Final will contain a selection of matching, multiple choice, short answer questions. A Study Guide will be provided. (PLO 2, 3)

Grading Information

Student progress will be assessed by means of essays and exams, along with a team project and some shorter assignments (Side Trips). Students will receive assignment sheets and rubrics—posted to Canvas and discussed in lectures—that will outline the specific expectations of the assignments. Students will receive written feedback on assignments along with a letter grade based on a 10-point scale per assignment. As this is an online class, students are encouraged to stay in regular contact with the instructor with regard to any questions about assignments or class expectations.

Specific grading criteria for assignments are indicated in the descriptions. Late papers and make-up exams must be arranged with the instructor. By department policy, in all English Department Courses, instructors will comment on and grade the quality of student writing as well as the quality of ideas being conveyed. All student writing should be distinguished by correct grammar and punctuation, appropriate diction and syntax, and well-organized paragraphs. The Department of English reaffirms its commitment to the differential grading scale as defined in the SJSU Catalog ("The Grading System"). Grades issued must represent a full range of student performance: A = <u>excellent</u>; B = <u>above average</u>; C = <u>average</u>; D = <u>below average</u>; F = <u>failure</u>

Determination of Grades

Grades are determined on a 100-point scale, as follows:

- 10 points = Team Project (to be completed after Module 1)
- 10 points = Short Essay (to be completed after Module 2)
- 10 points = Book Talk (to be completed after Module 3)
- 10 points = Selected module activities (Side Trips; 10 minimum required)
- 25 points = Participation ("Citizen" Badges)
- 15 points = 3 Module Quizzes at 5 points each
- 20 points = Final
- 100 points total

Grading Scale:

- A 90-100
- B 80-89
- C 70-79
- D 60-69

This course must be passed with a C or better as a CSU graduation requirement.

🟛 University Policies

Per <u>University Policy S16-9 (http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf)</u>, relevant university policy concerning all courses, such as student responsibilities, academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. and available student services (e.g. learning assistance, counseling, and other resources) are listed on <u>Syllabus Information web page</u> (<u>https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php</u>) (https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php). Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.

📅 Course Schedule

Schedule is subject to change at instructor's discretion. Schedule adjustments will be announced via Canvas Announcements and email. Weeks run Wednesdays through Tuesdays.

Course Schedule

Week & Theme	Date	Modules, Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines		
MODULE 0: GETTIN	MODULE 0: GETTING STARTED			
WEEK 1 GETTING STARTED	JAN 25 - JAN 31	INTRO TO CHILDREN'S LITERATURE & COURSE THEME WATCH/READ: Getting Started Materials READ: FALL 2023 Syllabus READ: Genre: A Short Introduction (.PDF provided) WATCH: Lecture: Intro to Children's Literature WATCH: Lecture: Course Theme: Crossing Borders DUE: MODULE 0 QUIZ [three attempts possible; score best of three]		
MODULE 1: ARBITRARY BORDERS				

Week & Theme	Date	Modules, Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
2 ICELAND	FEB 1 – FEB 7	WATCH: Lecture: Andri Snær Magnuson's <i>The Story of the Blue Planet</i> WATCH: Video: Iceland on Google Earth View WATCH: YouTube: " <u>On Time and Water</u> " READ: Novel: Magnuson, <i>The Story of the Blue Planet</i> (full text) HEADS UP: TEAM PROJECT: Read Assignment prompt and meet with teams.
3 DENMARK	FEB 8 – FEB 14	WATCH: Lecture: Bodil Bredsdorff's <i>The Crow-Girl</i> WATCH: YouTube: Denmark Time-Lapse Map READ: Novel: Bredsdorff, <i>The Crow-girl: The Children of Crow Cove</i> (full text)
4 GERMANY	FEB 15 - FEB 21	WATCH: Lecture: Gudrun Pausewang's <i>Traitor</i> WATCH: YouTube: History of Germany READ: Novel: Pausewang, <i>Traitor</i> (Ch 1-11) (begin) WORKSHOP: TEAM PROJECT: REQUIRED: More guidance on next steps in team projects.
5 GERMANY	FEB 16 - FEB 28	READ: Novel: Pausewang, <i>Traitor</i> (Ch 12-22) (finish) WATCH: YouTube: Eastern Front of WWII animated:1944/45 If you are interested in military history, you may want to watch the whole 17:05 minutes, but you may start watching at the 11:00 minute mark if you just want to see what occurs during the novel.
6 FINISH MODULE 1	MAR 1 - MAR 7	DUE: MODULE 1 QUIZ DUE: TEAM PROJECT (Step 1): Meet with teams. Finalize team projects. Team Coordinators post projects in Canvas.

Week & Theme	Date	Modules, Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines		
MODULE 2: EMERG	MODULE 2: EMERGING CITIZENS & THE ENVIRONMENT			
7 AFRICA	MAR 8 - MAR 14	WATCH: Lecture: Nnedi Okorafor & Africanfuturism		
		WATCH: YouTube: Where is Nigeria located?		
		WATCH: YouTube: The history of Nigeria explained in six minutes (3000 years of Nigerian history)		
		READ: Blog post: What is Africanfuturism?		
		READ: Essay: " <u>Stephen King's Super-Duper Magical Negroes</u> "		
		READ: Okorafor, <u>Selected stories (</u> online):		
		 Short story: "<u>The Key</u>" Short story: "<u>The Palm Tree Bandit</u>" Short story: "<u>The Baboon War</u>" 		
		READ AHEAD: Novel: Rushdie, Haroun and the Sea of Stories(begin)		
		DUE: TEAM PROJECT ANALYSIS (Step 2): Everyone individually complete an analysis of your team project and submit for grade.		
		HEADS UP: SHORT ESSAY: Read the prompt.		
8	MAR 15 – MAR	WATCH: Lecture: Salmon Rushdie's Haroun & the Sea of Stories		
INDIA	21	WATCH: Video: India: Location		
		WATCH: YouTube: 5000 Years History of India		
		READ: Novel: Rushdie, Haroun and the Sea of Stories(finish)		

Week & Theme	Date	
		Modules, Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
9	MAR 22 - MAR	WATCH: Lecture: Witi Ihimaera's Whale Rider
NEW ZEALAND	27	WATCH: Video: Location: New Zealand Google Earth
		WATCH: YouTube: Entire History of New Zealand
		READ: Novel: Ihimaera, <i>Whale Rider</i> (full text)
		SPRING BREAK
		MARCH 27 – 31
10		WATCH: Lecture: Japan, Manga & Saturn Apartments
JAPAN	– APR 4	WATCH: YouTube: Helen McCarthy's "A History of Manga"
		WATCH: YouTube: "History of Japan: Every Year" - This is a timeline of geographic territory and emperors.
		WATCH: YouTube: "History of Japan" - This one has more culture and history.
		READ: Graphic Novel: Iwaoka, <i>Saturn Apartments, Vol. 1</i> (full text)
11		WATCH: Lecture: Paul Fleischman's Seedfolks
U.S.A.	APR 11	WATCH: YouTube: An excerpt from Sonja Parks' one-woman show
		READ: Novel: Fleischman, <i>Seedfolks</i> (full text)
12	APR 12 – APR	DUE: MODULE 2 QUIZ
FINISH MODULE 2	18	DUE : ESSAY WORKSHOPS: REQUIRED
		DUE: SHORT ESSAY
		HEADS UP: BOOK TALKS: Read assignment prompt.
MODULE 3: INTERNATIONAL PICTURE BOOKS:		
DISRUPTING THE "SINGLE STORY"		

Week & Theme	Date	
		Modules, Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
13 PICTURE BOOKS	APR 19 - APR 25	WATCH: Lecture: The Power of Picture Books
		WATCH: TEDTalk: Adichie, " <u>The Danger of the Single Story</u> "
		READ: Philip Nel's "Migration, Refugees, and Diaspora in Children's Literature" (.PDF provided)
		READ:
		<i>Memories of Survival.</i> Written by Esther Nisenthal Krinitz and Bernice Steinhardt. Illustrated by Esther Nisenthal Krinitz (Poland-U.S.; 2005).
		<i>Ziba Came on a Boat</i> Written by Liz Lofthouse. Illustrated by Robert Ingpen (Afghanistan-Australia; 2007).
		<i>Mohammed's Journey: A Refugee Diary</i> . Written by Anthony Robinson and Anne- Marie Young. Illustrated by June Allan (Iraq-U.K.; 2009).
		DUE: SUBMIT BOOK TALK BOOKS FOR APPROVAL: REQUIRED: MESSAGE INSTRUCTOR
		DUE: BOOK TALK WORKSHOP: REQUIRED
14 PICTURE BOOKS	APR 26 - MAY 2	WATCH: Video: "A History of Children's Books"
		READ: Sonia Landes' "Picture Books as Literature"
		READ:
		<i>My Little Round House</i> Written and Illustrated by Bolormaa Baasansuren (Mongolia; 2009).
		I Know Here by Laurel Croza. Illustrated by Matt James (Canada; 2010).
		<i>Migrant</i> . Written by Maxine Trottier. Illustrated by Isabelle Arsenault (Mexico-Canada; 2011).
		<i>The Park in the Dark</i> Written by Martin Waddell. Illustrated by Barbara Firth (U.K.; 1989).

Week & Theme	Date	Modules, Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
15 PICTURE BOOKS	MAY 3 - MAY 9	READ: Perry Nodelman's "How Picture Books Work" (.PDF provided) <i>The Blue Sky.</i> Written and Illustrated by Andrea Petrlik Huseinović (Croatia; 2001). <i>Nei! sagði litla skrímslið (No! Said Little Monstei</i>) by Áslaug Jónsdóttir, Rakel Helmsdal & Kalle Güettler (Faroe-Iceland; 2004). <i>Herr Meier und Herr Müller.</i> Written and Illustrated by Birte Müller (Germany; 2001).
16 FINISH MODULE 3	MAY 10 - MAY 15	DUE: MODULE 3 QUIZ DUE: BOOK TALKS
FINAL EXAM	MAY 17 - MAY 23	DUE: FINAL EXAM (Available on Canvas MAY 17 – MAY 23)