ENGL 3357-115 Medieval Literature for Children  
Texas A&M University – Central Texas

Summer 2020: 8-Week Session  
Instructor: Dr. Amber Dunai  
Email: Canvas Course Email  
Alternative Email: adunai@tamuct.edu

Mode of Instruction: 100% Online  
Meeting Times: N/A  
Office Hours: WebEx meetings are available by appointment.

Important: Pacing of 8-Week Courses
If you have taken an 8-week course at TAMU-CT before, you know that the workload is the same as that of a 16-week course, but is completed twice as fast. For this reason, I recommend that you think of each 8-week class in which you are enrolled as the equivalent of two classes, since you will be completing two weeks’ worth of work (including reading and writing) each week.

Course Description
An in-depth study of one major theme in literary history. Topics vary and the course can be repeated for credit if taken under a different emphasis.

This semester will focus primarily on adaptations of medieval literature and stories for children. Some course topics will include:

• What criteria we can use to identify an adaptation as a “children’s” adaptation
• What alterations to source material are made in order to render an adaptation “suitable for children,” and the values/ideologies which motivate these alterations
• How medieval-themed literature aims to educate children through embedded “lessons” in topics such as history, language, and literature
• How representations of the medieval have become connected to genres now associated with children, especially fairy tales
• What the medieval period represents in modern media for children

Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes
By the end of this course, you should be able to:

• Recognize and describe features of children’s literature in terms of time period and culture, and discuss the connection between various ideas about children/childhood and literature written for children.
• Analyze children’s adaptations of and literature about medieval content, discussing the presentation of/alterations to source materials in terms of cultural ideas about children/childhood and suitable literature for children.
• Describe how the medieval is reimagined and represented in media created with an audience of children in mind, and what the medieval represents in modern media for children.
• Defend your analyses of children’s medieval literature in thoughtful and well-organized scholarly arguments supported by reference to and discussion of appropriate primary and secondary sources.

Required Textbooks
Susan Cooper, Over Sea, Under Stone. ISBN: 978-0689840357
Michael Morpurgo, Sir Gawain and the Green Knight. ISBN: 978-1406348880
James Rumford, Beowulf: A Hero’s Tale Retold. ISBN: 978-0618756377
Dr. Seuss, How the Grinch Stole Christmas! ISBN: 978-0394800790
T.H. White, The Sword in the Stone (alternately, T.H. White’s The Once and Future King is fine, since it includes The Sword in the Stone as the first part of the novel). ISBN: 978-0440984450
Marcia Williams, King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table. ISBN: 978-1406318661

Additional readings will be made available on Canvas or the library’s e-reserves.

Course Reading Schedule
Readings (including the relevant “mini-lectures” posted to Canvas) must be completed by Friday of the week during which they are assigned, when all assignments related to the week’s reading are also due (by 11:59 PM). However, it is important that you set additional deadlines for yourself based on your own unique schedule and the amount of time you will require to successfully complete the week’s written assignments. I am available, over email or WebEx, to discuss strategies and scheduling which will help you to be successful in the class. Weekly content will be released in units of 2-3 weeks each, and each unit will be made available by the Friday before the unit officially begins to allow ample time for planning. Note that major assignment deadlines have been included in the schedule for your convenience.

Abbreviations: CLVSI (Children’s Literature: A Very Short Introduction); ER (electronic reserves)

Unit 1: Introduction to Children’s Literature...with Grendel!
WEEK 1  6/5: CLVSI Intro. & Ch. 1-3, How the Grinch Stole Christmas!
WEEK 2  6/12: CLVSI Ch. 4-6, Beowulf: A Hero’s Tale Retold, ER: Crossley-Holland excerpt; Essay 1 Due

Unit 2: Sir Gawain and the Coming-of-Age Story

WEEK 3  6/19: ER: Sir Gawain and the Green Knight (Harrison and Cooper translation), ER: Vitto article

WEEK 4  6/26: Sir Gawain and the Green Knight (Morpurgo); The Adventures of Sir Gawain the True


Unit 3: Magical Kingdoms: Camelot and Beyond

WEEK 6  7/10: King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table (Williams), ER: Malory Ch. III-VII; ER: Courtauld, “The Sword in the Stone,” ER: Morpurgo, “Nobody’s Child”

WEEK 7  7/17: The Sword in the Stone (White)

WEEK 8  7/24: Over Sea, Under Stone, ER: Sturtevant chapter; Essay 3 Due

Grades
25% Short Written Reflections
25% Essay 1
25% Essay 2
25% Essay 3

Grading scale: 90-100: A; 80-89: B; 70-79: C; 60-69: D; 0-59: F

All grades will be posted to Canvas’s grade book, and students will be able to view their grades (along with instructor feedback) as they are returned. You can generally expect grades to be returned within one week of the assignment deadline.

Major Assignment Due Dates
Essay 1: Friday, June 12
Essay 2: Friday, July 3
Essay 3: Friday, July 24

Short Written Reflections
You will complete a total of eight short written reflections at least 400 words in length each over the course of the semester. Short Written Reflections are due at 11:59 PM on the Friday of each week they are assigned. You will receive a rubric with more information regarding how Short Written Reflections will be scored during Week 1. The Plagiarism Quiz administered during Week 1 will also count toward the Short Written Reflections average, as will the required
Introductions discussion post also due at the end of Week 1. This brings the total number of Short Written Reflections scores to ten.

**Essays 1, 2, & 3**

Over the course of the semester prompts and rubrics for three analytical essays will be made available. Each essay is designed to respond to topics discussed and readings completed during the unit when they’re due. Essay 1 is relevant to readings and topics covered in Unit 1, Essay 2 to readings and topics covered in Unit 2, and Essay 3 to readings and topics covered in Unit 3. See the prompt and rubric for each essay for specific requirements regarding content and sources. Each essay will be checked for originality by a plagiarism-detecting service when it is uploaded to the assignment link provided in the course Canvas page.

Additionally, a prompt and rubric for an **optional** creative/scholarly assignment allowing students to create their own children’s adaptation of a medieval text/story will be made available during Week 1. The adaptation must be accompanied by a short scholarly essay of at least 500 words contextualizing the adaptation in terms of relevant scholarship on children’s literature. This assignment may be substituted for **either** Essay 1, Essay 2, or Essay 3 (**but not more than one of these essays**). Students are free to choose whether to substitute this adaptation assignment for one of the original essays or to simply respond to the original essay prompts for all three assignments.

**Instructor Availability**

You are welcome to contact me with questions or comments via email (but please send emails to me via the Canvas messaging system, unless the site is down). I endeavor to answer all emails within 24 hours of receiving them, not counting weekends and holidays. Office hour meetings are available by appointment and will be held via the WebEx service in Canvas. You may request an appointment by email. I do ask that any appointment request be made **at least 24 hours in advance of the desired meeting time** to guarantee that I have time to review and respond to them. Do not assume that the meeting will take place unless I have responded to your request and confirmed the time. **For instructions on how to join a WebEx appointment meeting, see the “How to Schedule and Join WebEx Appointments” page in Canvas (linked in the “Orientation: Start Here” and “Handouts and Resources” sections).**

**Draft Review Policy**

Students often ask me whether I’ll look at drafts of major assignments and give advice on how to improve them. The answer is yes; however, students who wish for me to review an entire draft must schedule a WebEx appointment in order to discuss the paper. I will not review
drafts that are emailed to me with no explanation; over email, I will only address specific questions that can be answered in a brief email response.

Online Course Etiquette
Students are to maintain a high level of collegiality and respect when interacting with one another and the instructor, whether over email, during a WebEx meeting, or on the discussion board. The same expectations for professional and respectful behavior apply online as in the face-to-face classroom. Disagreements are a normal and often productive aspect of academic discourse, and differences in viewpoint relevant to course content may be expressed and explored during discussion activities. However, participants engaged in discussion must remain respectful to all parties involved and focused on topics relevant to the activity at hand.

Late Submission Policy
I do not accept late/make-up work for assignments unless the student has missed the deadline due to an excused reason (for example, an illness or emergency situation experienced by the student or a member of his or her immediate family). Whenever possible, students should notify me before the assignment deadline if they believe they cannot meet it and let me know why. At that time, I will determine whether an extension is appropriate (based upon the student’s reason for missing the deadline) and, if it is, set a new deadline.

After a new deadline for the assignment is established, you must abide by this deadline or else receive a zero on the assignment. In all situations involving missed and/or extended deadlines, it is the student’s responsibility to contact the instructor if any issues arise. If I do not hear from you and do not have your submission after a deadline passes, I will assume that you do not intend to turn in the assignment and will put a zero in the gradebook. Additionally, extensions must be requested in a timely manner. If a student has not requested an extension within two calendar days (48 hours) of the deadline, the grade will remain zero unless the student can provide a reasonable explanation regarding why it was not possible to contact me sooner.

Attendance Policy
Because this is an asynchronous 100% online class, there is no set meeting time. However, students are encouraged to log in to the site daily (excluding weekends and holidays) in order to view materials, check email, and complete assignments in a timely manner.

Program Assessment Statement
To ensure the learning outcomes are met in the English Department, there is a program-wide artifact collection process. To that end, some of the projects you complete for ENGL 3357 this semester may be used for programmatic assessment. Please note that all efforts will be made
to keep your identity anonymous; as such, all identifying markers will be removed from your work if used for programmatic assessment. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Dr. Dunai.

Drop Policy
If you discover that you need to drop this class, you must complete the Drop Request Dynamic Form through Warrior Web.

[https://dynamicforms.ngwebsolutions.com/casAuthentication.ashx?InstID=eaed95b9-f2be-45f3-a37d-46928168bc10&targetUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fdynamicforms.ngwebsolutions.com%2FSubmit%2FForm%2FStart%2F53b8369e-0502-4f36-be43-f02a4202f612].

Faculty cannot drop students; this is always the responsibility of the student. The Registrar’s Office will provide a deadline on the Academic Calendar for which the form must be completed. Once you submit the completed form to the Registrar’s Office, you must go into Warrior Web and confirm that you are no longer enrolled. If you still show as enrolled, FOLLOW-UP with the Registrar’s Office immediately. You are to attend class until the procedure is complete to avoid penalty for absence. Should you miss the drop deadline or fail to follow the procedure, you will receive an F in the course, which may affect your financial aid and/or VA educational benefits.

Incompletes
Incompletes are only assigned due to unexpected emergency situations which occur after the final drop date (for example, an emergency medical situation experienced by the student). If you simply find yourself overwhelmed by the semester’s demands, you do not qualify for an incomplete. If you experience an emergency which you believe will prevent you from completing the semester’s work before the final drop date, you are expected to drop. If you experience an unexpected emergency situation after the final drop date which you believe will prevent you from completing the semester’s work, please contact me as soon as possible so that we can discuss whether you qualify for an incomplete.

Technology Statement
Technology Requirements:
All work submitted this semester must be in Microsoft Word or PDF format, and you must be able to open Microsoft Word and PDF files on your computer in order to access important course documents.
In order to view course-related videos, you will require speakers on the device you use to access Canvas. In order to set a WebEx office hours appointment with the instructor, you will require a device with both speakers and a microphone (you can also join a WebEx meeting via telephone). Webcam use during WebEx meetings is optional.

This course will use the A&M-Central Texas Instructure Canvas learning management system. We strongly recommend the latest versions of Chrome or Firefox browsers. Canvas no longer supports any version of Internet Explorer.

Logon to A&M-Central Texas Canvas [https://tamuct.instructure.com/] or access Canvas through the TAMUCT Online link in myCT [https://tamuct.onecampus.com/]. You will log in through our Microsoft portal.

Username: Your MyCT email address. Password: Your MyCT password

**Canvas Support**

Use the Canvas Help link, located at the bottom of the left-hand menu, for issues with Canvas. You can select “Chat with Canvas Support,” submit a support request through “Report a Problem,” or call the Canvas support line: 1-844-757-0953.

For issues related to course content and requirements, contact your instructor.

**Online Proctored Testing**

A&M-Central Texas uses Proctorio for online identity verification and proctored testing. This service is provided at no direct cost to students. If the course requires identity verification or proctored testing, the technology requirements are: Any computer meeting the minimum computing requirements, plus web camera, speaker, and microphone (or headset). Proctorio also requires the Chrome web browser with their custom plug in.

**Other Technology Support**

For log-in problems, students should contact Help Desk Central

24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Email: helpdesk@tamu.edu
Phone: (254) 519-5466
Web Chat: [http://hdc.tamu.edu]

*Please let the support technician know you are an A&M-Central Texas student.*
Academic Integrity

Texas A&M University-Central Texas values the integrity of the academic enterprise and strives for the highest standards of academic conduct. A&M-Central Texas expects its students, faculty, and staff to support the adherence to high standards of personal and scholarly conduct to preserve the honor and integrity of the creative community. Academic integrity is defined as a commitment to honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Any deviation by students from this expectation may result in a failing grade for the assignment and potentially a failing grade for the course. Academic misconduct is any act that improperly affects a true and honest evaluation of a student’s academic performance and includes, but is not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work, plagiarism and improper citation of sources, using another student’s work, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials. All academic misconduct concerns will be reported to the university’s Office of Student Conduct. Ignorance of the university’s standards and expectations is never an excuse to act with a lack of integrity. When in doubt on collaboration, citation, or any issue, please contact your instructor before taking a course of action.

For more information regarding the Student Conduct process, [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct.html].
If you know of potential honor violations by other students, you may submit a report, [https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=0].

Instructor’s Note on Plagiarism and Academic Integrity:
Plagiarism is the act of presenting another person’s work as if it were your own or failing to acknowledge your sources. This might be done by quoting a source without indicating that you are quoting (if you neglect to include quotation marks and/or a citation); paraphrasing or summarizing without acknowledging your source; and/or taking part or all of another text and presenting it as your own. Self-plagiarism (also known as “recycling” an assignment) means submitting part or all of an assignment that you previously submitted for credit in a course; this is also not permitted. You are responsible for understanding how to use sources correctly and ethically. You are also responsible for understanding how to cite a source which you have quoted, paraphrased, or summarized. This course uses the 8th edition of MLA for formatting and citations. You can access the guidelines online at the Purdue Online Writing Lab (OWL) website: [https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/mla_formatting_and_style_guide.html].

If you have questions about using and citing sources, please ask. I am always happy to explain how to cite sources correctly and to provide any clarification needed regarding questions of
academic integrity. Be aware that any assignment that fails to attribute sources properly, was written in part or in whole by someone other than the student who submitted it, and/or was previously submitted for credit to another course will receive a grade of zero and will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct. Likewise, any other violations of academic integrity (such as collaborating on an assignment when the instructions are to work individually) will result in a grade of zero on the assignment in question and a report to the Office of Student Conduct. All major writing assignments will be checked for originality through a plagiarism-detecting service when they are uploaded to the assignment link.

Academic Accommodations

At Texas A&M University-Central Texas, we value an inclusive learning environment where every student has an equal chance to succeed and has the right to a barrier-free education. The Office of Access and Inclusion is responsible for ensuring that students with a disability receive equal access to the university’s programs, services and activities. If you believe you have a disability requiring reasonable accommodations please contact the Office of Access and Inclusion, WH-212; or call (254) 501-5836. Any information you provide is private and confidential and will be treated as such.

For more information please visit our Access & Inclusion Canvas page (log-in required) [https://tamuct.instructure.com/courses/717]

Important information for Pregnant and/or Parenting Students

Texas A&M University-Central Texas supports students who are pregnant and/or parenting. In accordance with requirements of Title IX and related guidance from US Department of Education’s Office of Civil Rights, the Dean of Student Affairs’ Office can assist students who are pregnant and/or parenting in seeking accommodations related to pregnancy and/or parenting. Students should seek out assistance as early in the pregnancy as possible. For more information, please visit Student Affairs [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/index.html]. Students may also contact the institution’s Title IX Coordinator. If you would like to read more about these requirements and guidelines online, please visit the website [http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf].

Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex and gender—including pregnancy, parenting, and all related conditions. A&M-Central Texas is able to provide flexible and individualized reasonable accommodation to pregnant and parenting students. All pregnant and parenting students should contact the Associate Dean in the Division of Student Affairs at (254) 501-5909 to seek out assistance. Students may also contact the University’s Title IX Coordinator.
The University Writing Center

The University Writing Center (UWC) at Texas A&M University–Central Texas (TAMUCT) is a free service open to all TAMUCT students. For the Summer 2020 semester, all services will be online as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The hours of operation are from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Monday thru Thursday with satellite hours online Monday thru Thursday from 6:00-9:00 p.m. This summer, the UWC is also offering hours from 12:00-3:00 p.m. on Saturdays starting June 27th and ending July 18th.

Tutors are prepared to help writers of all levels and abilities at any stage of the writing process. While tutors will not write, edit, or grade papers, they will assist students in developing more effective composing practices. By providing a practice audience for students’ ideas and writing, our tutors highlight the ways in which they read and interpret students’ texts, offering guidance and support throughout the various stages of the writing process. In addition, students may work independently in the UWC by checking out a laptop that runs the Microsoft Office suite and connects to WIFI, or by consulting our resources on writing, including all of the relevant style guides. Whether you need help brainstorming ideas, organizing an essay, proofreading, understanding proper citation practices, or just want a quiet place to work, the UWC is here to help!

Students may arrange a one-to-one session with a trained and experienced writing tutor by making an appointment via WCONline [https://tamuct.mywconline.com/]. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu if you have any questions about the UWC and/or need any assistance with scheduling.

Tutoring

Tutoring is available to all A&M-Central Texas students, on a remote online basis. Visit the Academic Support Community in Canvas to view schedules and contact information. Subjects tutored on campus include Accounting, Advanced Math, Biology, Finance, Statistics, Mathematics, and Study Skills. Tutors will return at the Tutoring Center in Warrior Hall, Suite 111 in the Fall 2020. Student success coaching is available online upon request.

If you have a question regarding tutor schedules, need to schedule a tutoring session, are interested in becoming a tutor, success coaching, or have any other question, contact Academic Support Programs at (254) 501-5836, visit the Office of Student Success at 212F Warrior Hall, or by emailing studentsuccess@tamuct.edu.

Chat live with a tutor 24/7 for almost any subject from on your computer! Tutor.com is an online tutoring platform that enables A&M-Central Texas students to log in and receive online
tutoring support at no additional cost. This tool provides tutoring in over 40 subject areas except writing support. Access Tutor.com through Canvas.

University Library

The University Library provides many services in support of research across campus and at a distance. We offer over 200 electronic databases containing approximately 250,000 eBooks and 82,000 journals, in addition to the 85,000 items in our print collection, which can be mailed to students who live more than 50 miles from campus. Research guides for each subject taught at A&M-Central Texas are available through our website to help students navigate these resources. On campus, the library offers technology including cameras, laptops, microphones, webcams, and digital sound recorders.

Research assistance from a librarian is also available 24 hours a day through our online chat service, and at the reference desk when the library is open. Research sessions can be scheduled for more comprehensive assistance, and may take place on Skype or in-person at the library. Assistance may cover many topics, including how to find articles in peer-reviewed journals, how to cite resources, and how to piece together research for written assignments.

Our 27,000-square-foot facility on the A&M-Central Texas main campus includes student lounges, private study rooms, group work spaces, computer labs, family areas suitable for all ages, and many other features. Services such as interlibrary loan, TexShare, binding, and laminating are available. The library frequently offers workshops, tours, readings, and other events. For more information, please visit our Library website [http://tamuct.libguides.com/index].

Warrior Shield

Emergency Warning System for Texas A&M University-Central Texas

Warrior Shield is an emergency notification service that gives Texas A&M University-Central Texas the ability to communicate health and safety emergency information quickly via email, text message, and social media. All students are automatically enrolled in Warrior Shield through their myCT email account.

Connect to Warrior Shield by 911Cellular [https://portal.publicsafetycloud.net/Account/Login] to change where you receive your alerts or to opt out. By staying enrolled in Warrior Shield, university officials can quickly pass on safety-related information, regardless of your location.

Copyright Notice

Students should assume that all course material is copyrighted by the respective author(s). Reproduction of course material is prohibited without consent by the author and/or course
instructor. Violation of copyright is against the law and Texas A&M University-Central Texas’ Code of Academic Honesty. All alleged violations will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct.

*The professor reserves the right to amend this syllabus at any time. If changes are required, students will be notified immediately and provided with a copy of the updated section(s).*