

**J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College
Course Content Summary**

Course Prefix and Number: ENG 250

Credits: 3

Course Title: Children's Literature

Course Description: Surveys the history, development, and genres of children's literature, focusing on analysis of texts for literary qualities and in terms of audience. Involves critical reading and writing. ENG 250 has been designated as a "writing intensive" course according to standards developed by the English department. Prerequisite: ENG 112 or equivalent. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose: Provides students with a historically- and culturally-based understanding of all genres of children's literature, placed within one or more theoretical frameworks, through critical reading and writing.

Course Prerequisites and Co-requisites:

Prerequisite: ENG 112 or equivalent

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to

- a. Identify the different genres of children's literature and identify the features of each;
- b. Analyze and evaluate works of children's literature using various theoretical perspectives, including audience analysis;
- c. Recognize and articulate the similarities and differences between works from different periods and cultures based on their social and historical contexts;
- d. Write a number of essays, including research-based writing; and
- e. Recognize the contribution of the literature to the development of contemporary culture.

Major Topics to Be Included:

- a. History of children's literature
- b. Defining traits of various genres of children's literature (e.g., picture books, fantasy, poetry)
- c. Analysis and evaluation of specific works of children's literature
- d. Role of children's literature in contemporary culture, comic books and graphic novels, and poetry
- e. Critical/theoretical approaches to these readings (e.g., psychological, formalist, feminist, learning/developmental).
- f. Critical reading and writing

Effective Date of Course Content Summary: January 12, 2018