

# **COURSE OUTLINE**

**ENGL-200**

**Children's Literature**

**3 Credits**

## **HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

### **Description**

Children's Literature examines the historical background and development of works written for young people. Students are presented with criteria for assessing both text and illustrations of classic and contemporary works written for diverse audiences of children and young adults with a strong focus on terminology and a variety of genres. This is a writing intensive course. Prerequisite: ENGL-121. (3 hours weekly)

### **Statement on General Education and Liberal Learning**

A liberal education prepares students to lead ethical, productive, and creative lives and to understand how the pursuit of lifelong learning and critical thinking fosters good citizenship. General education courses form the core of a liberal education within the higher education curriculum and provide a coherent intellectual experience for all students by introducing the fundamental concepts and methods of inquiry in the areas of mathematics, the physical and natural sciences, the social sciences, the arts and the humanities, and composition. This course is part of the general education core experience at Howard Community College.

### **Overall Course Objectives**

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Recognize literary terms, concepts, critical strategies, and stylistic characteristics in the texts studied.
2. Demonstrate critical and independent thinking in the interpretation of texts.
3. Write analytically about literary works, using appropriate research and documentation.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of ways the literature studied reflects its intellectual, social, historical and cultural contexts.
5. Evaluate the power of literature to address personal values and goals and to challenge human endeavor.
6. Identify the foundations of children's literature.
7. Describe specific criteria for selecting and evaluating children's books.
8. Analyze the psychological, sociological, archetypal and structural components within genres of children's literature.
9. Demonstrate an understanding of book reviewing techniques for children's literature.
10. Describe the characteristics of the literary and illustration contributions over time.
11. Identify specific literature that is appropriate for certain age groups.
12. Identify some of the methods used to provide literature to visually and auditorially challenged children.
13. Identify some of the career opportunities available in the field of children's literature.

### **Major Topics**

- I. History of children's literature
- II. Rhymes, Picture books, Concept books, Readers
- III. Folklore
- IV. Fables, Myths, Epics, Tall Tales
- V. Fantasy
- VI. Poetry
- VII. Award books

- VIII. Contemporary realism
- IX. Historical fiction
- X. Biography
- XI. Informational books
- XII. Contemporary critical issues

### **Course Requirements**

Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member but may include exams, papers and class participation. Specific writing assignments will require at least 2,500 words of formal academic writing, as well as informal in-class assignments to explore ideas and respond to class materials.

### **Other Course Information**

This course is a Literature and Humanities core course and a Humanities, English, and Arts and Sciences elective.