



ENGL710

Children's Literature: Concepts and Theories

S2 External 2015

Dept of English

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor

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Lecturer

Ryan Twomey

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Credit points

4

Prerequisites

Admission to MRes

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit introduces students to contemporary literary and cultural theories pertinent to reading and analysing texts produced for children. Students will develop their own research projects that address a key analytical aspect of children's literature. Research topics include social and historical contexts for the production and reception of children's literature; constructions of childhood; semiotics of visual and verbal texts; critical approaches to children's texts; ideology and value; and classics, canons and postmodernity.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates>

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

Acquire a coherent and advanced knowledge of the range and kinds of literature produced or children

Developed and further expand understanding and ability to apply literary and cultural concepts to field and refined skills in textual and critical analysis especially the ability to recognise and analyse the extent to which texts are implicated in and by relationships to

cultural practice

Synthesise and analyse information from a variety of sources and be aware of the various ways in which the literature can be understood within perspectives suggested by cultural theories, practices and ideologies

Articulate a clear and coherent argument in written form to a variety of audiences

Think critically and make informed judgements of the arguments of others to arrive and reasoned and meaningful arguments and apply new ideas to new contexts

Demonstrate the ability to apply accumulated knowledge and skills to make decisions in the context of professional practice and scholarship

Demonstrate high standards of ethical conduct in research activities and relationships

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Due
Task 2	30%	Week 7
Task 3	50%	18 November 2015
Task 1	20%	weekly

Task 2

Due: **Week 7**

Weighting: **30%**

Write a critical analysis in response to the task 2 in the unit handbook.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Developed and further expand understanding and ability to apply literary and cultural concepts to field and refined skills in textual and critical analysis especially the ability to recognise and analyse the extent to which texts are implicated in and by relationships to cultural practice
- Synthesise and analyse information from a variety of sources and be aware of the various ways in which the literature can be understood within perspectives suggested by cultural theories, practices and ideologies
- Articulate a clear and coherent argument in written form to a variety of audiences
- Think critically and make informed judgements of the arguments of others to arrive and reasoned and meaningful arguments and apply new ideas to new contexts
- Demonstrate the ability to apply accumulated knowledge and skills to make decisions in

the context of professional practice and scholarship

Task 3

Due: **18 November 2015**

Weighting: **50%**

One major essay of 2500 words on one major essay topic listed in Unit handbook.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Acquire a coherent and advanced knowledge of the range and kinds of literature produced or children
- Developed and further expand understanding and ability to apply literary and cultural concepts to field and refined skills in textual and critical analysis especially the ability to recognise and analyse the extent to which texts are implicated in and by relationships to cultural practice
- Synthesise and analyse information from a variety of sources and be aware of the various ways in which the literature can be understood within perspectives suggested by cultural theories, practices and ideologies
- Articulate a clear and coherent argument in written form to a variety of audiences
- Think critically and make informed judgements of the arguments of others to arrive and reasoned and meaningful arguments and apply new ideas to new contexts
- Demonstrate the ability to apply accumulated knowledge and skills to make decisions in the context of professional practice and scholarship
- Demonstrate high standards of ethical conduct in research activities and relationships

Task 1

Due: **weekly**

Weighting: **20%**

Active participation and contribution to online discussions

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Acquire a coherent and advanced knowledge of the range and kinds of literature produced or children
- Developed and further expand understanding and ability to apply literary and cultural concepts to field and refined skills in textual and critical analysis especially the ability to recognise and analyse the extent to which texts are implicated in and by relationships to cultural practice

- Synthesise and analyse information from a variety of sources and be aware of the various ways in which the literature can be understood within perspectives suggested by cultural theories, practices and ideologies
- Articulate a clear and coherent argument in written form to a variety of audiences
- Think critically and make informed judgements of the arguments of others to arrive at reasoned and meaningful arguments and apply new ideas to new contexts
- Demonstrate the ability to apply accumulated knowledge and skills to make decisions in the context of professional practice and scholarship
- Demonstrate high standards of ethical conduct in research activities and relationships

Delivery and Resources

The unit is delivered online via the LIT864/ENGL710 iLearn site. Set texts are available from the University Coop Bookshop. Other resources are available from E-Reserve in the Library.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](#). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

Academic Honesty Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html

Assessment Policy <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy.html>

Grading Policy <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grading/policy.html>

Grade Appeal Policy <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/gradeappeal/policy.html>

Grievance Management Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grievance_management/policy.html

Disruption to Studies Policy http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption_studies/policy.html *The Disruption to Studies Policy is effective from March 3 2014 and replaces the Special Consideration Policy.*

In addition, a number of other policies can be found in the [Learning and Teaching Category](#) of Policy Central.

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/

Results

Results shown in *iLearn*, or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au.

Departmental Policies

Extensions and Penalties

If you have a legitimate reason for being unable to submit your work by the due date please contact the unit convenor before the due date. Formal requests for disruption to study need to be made via ask@mq.edu.au (appropriate documentation needs to be provided). A 2% per day penalty may otherwise apply.

Word Length

Word lengths need to be adhered to. Papers which are 10% over or under the required word length may incur a penalty.

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module for Students](#)
- [Ask a Learning Adviser](#)

Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](#) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit <http://informatics.mq.edu.au/help/>.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.