



# LIT 846

## Retelling Stories: Sources of Children's Literature

S2 External 2015

*Dept of English*

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## General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

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Credit points

4

Prerequisites

Admission to MChildLit or MCrWrit or GradDipChildLit or GradDipCrWrit or MEChild or MA in (English Literature or Children's Literature or Creative Writing) or PGDipArts in Children's Literature

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit focuses on the retelling of traditional stories, mainly drawn from European cultures, as a significant endeavour in Anglophone children's literature. It examines how the retelling of, in particular, classical myths, Bible stories, heroic legends, Arthurian romances and 'oriental' tales discloses the aspirations of society and the values it wishes to convey to children.

## 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 types of retellings produced for children.

Synthesize and analyze information from a variety of sources, and show an awareness of the various ways in which the literature is oriented by cultural assumptions, practices and ideologies.

Develop skills in textual and cultural analysis, especially the ability to analyse the extent to which texts attempt to intervene in cultural formations.

Understand how readers are positioned by the interplay of the known and the new in the process of retelling stories.

## Assessment Tasks

| Name                             | Weighting | Due        |
|----------------------------------|-----------|------------|
| <u>Participation</u>             | 10%       | Week 12    |
| <u>Early Feedback Lit Review</u> | 40%       | 20/08/2015 |
| <u>Major Essay</u>               | 50%       | 10/11/2015 |

### Participation

Due: **Week 12**

Weighting: **10%**

External students must participate in online discussions via the LIT 846 iLearn site.

As part of their participation, students must nominate one of the weekly topics and will then be responsible for leading the group discussion on this topic in the relevant week. Students will be asked to nominate a topic in Week 1, and a roster will then be drawn up and posted on the iLearn site. At the beginning of each week, students who have nominated that topic will be responsible for leading the class discussion.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Synthesize and analyze information from a variety of sources, and show an awareness of the various ways in which the literature is oriented by cultural assumptions, practices and ideologies.
- Develop skills in textual and cultural analysis, especially the ability to analyse the extent to which texts attempt to intervene in cultural formations.
- Understand how readers are positioned by the interplay of the known and the new in the process of retelling stories.

### Early Feedback Lit Review

Due: **20/08/2015**

Weighting: **40%**

You must write a literature review of three articles each of which is available for download on the iLearn site. A literature review is not an annotated bibliography (a list of works with added notes) but a discussion and assessment of how experts have approached an issue: it will have an introduction, body and conclusion, well-formed paragraphs, and a logical structure. Compare and contrast the works you are discussing, showing their strengths (and weaknesses), how they

agree/disagree, and what contribution they make to your understanding of the subject.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Synthesize and analyze information from a variety of sources, and show an awareness of the various ways in which the literature is oriented by cultural assumptions, practices and ideologies.
- Develop skills in textual and cultural analysis, especially the ability to analyse the extent to which texts attempt to intervene in cultural formations.
- Understand how readers are positioned by the interplay of the known and the new in the process of retelling stories.

## Major Essay

Due: **10/11/2015**

Weighting: **50%**

Please write a final essay based on the topics listed for weeks 2-12.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Acquire a coherent and advanced knowledge of the range and types of retellings produced for children.
- Synthesize and analyze information from a variety of sources, and show an awareness of the various ways in which the literature is oriented by cultural assumptions, practices and ideologies.
- Develop skills in textual and cultural analysis, especially the ability to analyse the extent to which texts attempt to intervene in cultural formations.
- Understand how readers are positioned by the interplay of the known and the new in the process of retelling stories.

## Delivery and Resources

**LIT 846 will be run as an online unit in Session 2, 2015. This means that there are no face-to-face classes scheduled. Students must use the LIT 846 iLearn site to access unit material and take part in weekly discussions.**

**Mini Lectures** will be provided on the LIT 846 iLearn site (although they are not scheduled for each weekly topic). These lectures will not function as comprehensive summaries of the readings, nor should students anticipate that these lectures offer definitive 'answers' to many of the big questions we will look at this semester. The lectures are designed to contextualise the readings, suggest multiple approaches to their interpretation, and direct attention to specific aspects of the readings or issues for discussion. In some cases, the lectures will survey an issue or theme and propose working definitions of key terms (definitions which you are encouraged to

adapt, elaborate on and contend with).

## 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](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](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](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/](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](http://ask.mq.edu.au).

## 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](http://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](http://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.

## Graduate Capabilities

### PG - Capable of Professional and Personal Judgment and Initiative

Our postgraduates will demonstrate a high standard of discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgment. They will have the ability to make informed choices and decisions that reflect both the nature of their professional work and their personal perspectives.

This graduate capability is supported by:

#### Learning outcomes

- Synthesize and analyze information from a variety of sources, and show an awareness of the various ways in which the literature is oriented by cultural assumptions, practices and ideologies.
- Develop skills in textual and cultural analysis, especially the ability to analyse the extent to which texts attempt to intervene in cultural formations.

#### Assessment tasks

- Participation
- Major Essay

### PG - Discipline Knowledge and Skills

Our postgraduates will be able to demonstrate a significantly enhanced depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content knowledge in their chosen fields.

This graduate capability is supported by:

#### Learning outcomes

- Acquire a coherent and advanced knowledge of the range and types of retellings produced for children.

- Synthesize and analyze information from a variety of sources, and show an awareness of the various ways in which the literature is oriented by cultural assumptions, practices and ideologies.
- Develop skills in textual and cultural analysis, especially the ability to analyse the extent to which texts attempt to intervene in cultural formations.
- Understand how readers are positioned by the interplay of the known and the new in the process of retelling stories.

## **Assessment tasks**

- Participation
- Early Feedback Lit Review
- Major Essay

## **PG - Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking**

Our postgraduates will be capable of utilising and reflecting on prior knowledge and experience, of applying higher level critical thinking skills, and of integrating and synthesising learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments. A characteristic of this form of thinking is the generation of new, professionally oriented knowledge through personal or group-based critique of practice and theory.

This graduate capability is supported by:

## **Learning outcomes**

- Acquire a coherent and advanced knowledge of the range and types of retellings produced for children.
- Synthesize and analyze information from a variety of sources, and show an awareness of the various ways in which the literature is oriented by cultural assumptions, practices and ideologies.
- Develop skills in textual and cultural analysis, especially the ability to analyse the extent to which texts attempt to intervene in cultural formations.
- Understand how readers are positioned by the interplay of the known and the new in the process of retelling stories.

## **Assessment tasks**

- Participation
- Early Feedback Lit Review
- Major Essay

## PG - Research and Problem Solving Capability

Our postgraduates will be capable of systematic enquiry; able to use research skills to create new knowledge that can be applied to real world issues, or contribute to a field of study or practice to enhance society. They will be capable of creative questioning, problem finding and problem solving.

This graduate capability is supported by:

### Learning outcome

- Synthesize and analyze information from a variety of sources, and show an awareness of the various ways in which the literature is oriented by cultural assumptions, practices and ideologies.

### Assessment tasks

- Participation
- Major Essay

## PG - Effective Communication

Our postgraduates will be able to communicate effectively and convey their views to different social, cultural, and professional audiences. They will be able to use a variety of technologically supported media to communicate with empathy using a range of written, spoken or visual formats.

This graduate capability is supported by:

### Learning outcomes

- Synthesize and analyze information from a variety of sources, and show an awareness of the various ways in which the literature is oriented by cultural assumptions, practices and ideologies.
- Develop skills in textual and cultural analysis, especially the ability to analyse the extent to which texts attempt to intervene in cultural formations.

### Assessment tasks

- Participation
- Early Feedback Lit Review
- Major Essay

## PG - Engaged and Responsible, Active and Ethical Citizens

Our postgraduates will be ethically aware and capable of confident transformative action in relation to their professional responsibilities and the wider community. They will have a sense of connectedness with others and country and have a sense of mutual obligation. They will be able



to appreciate the impact of their professional roles for social justice and inclusion related to national and global issues

This graduate capability is supported by:

### **Assessment tasks**

- Participation
- Major Essay