

Identification	Subject (code, title, credits)	LIT 201 Children's Literature 3KU/6ECTS
	Department	English Language and Literature
	Program (undergraduate, graduate)	Undergraduate
	Term	Fall, 2026
	Instructor	Turkan Elbayiyeva
	E-mail:	turkan.elbayiyeva@khazar.org
	Phone:	
	Classroom/hours	2 academic hours
	Office hours	TBA
Prerequisites	None	
Language	English	
Compulsory/Elective	Compulsory	
Required textbooks and course materials	Temple, Charles et al. <i>Children's Books in Children's Hands: A Brief Introduction to Their Literature</i> . 6th edition. Pearson. 2018 Selected primary texts and extracts will be provided by the instructor.	
Course outline	This course is a survey of children's literature during which we will explore, through reading and discussion, a wide range of genres and issues related to children's books.	
Course objectives	• to encourage and develop in every student the desire to read and study literature critically, to analyze and appreciate literature itself as well as to know and to consider what has been written about literature; • to interpret literature as a combination of writers' personal ideas and the historical and cultural context; • to familiarize students with the characteristics of the literature written for children and the requirements for a quality, age-appropriate content selection; • to explore teaching and learning strategies for using children's literature to help students recognize, question, and interpret ideas from a variety of perspectives.	
Learning outcomes	Upon successful completion of the course, the students will be able to: • critically read, analyze, and respond to literature; • recognize and select high-quality current, multicultural literature in a wide variety of genres to share with a diverse student population; • understand the theoretical base of a critical reader-response approach to analyzing and teaching literature. • enhance their language and analytical skills through reading and interpretation.	
Teaching methods	Mini Lectures	+
	Group Discussion	+
	Individual Presentations	+

	Case analysis	+
	Simulation	+
	Group work	+
	Role plays	+

Evaluation	Methods	Date/deadlines	Percentage (%)
	Midterm Exam	November	30
	Quizzes	October/December	10
	Project Presentation	During Semester	10
	Reading Chapters	During Semester	5
	Activity	During Semester	5
	Participation	During Semester	5
	Final Exam	January	35
	Total		100%

Policy	Assessment Class Participation and Activity This course cannot be successful without your regular participation. Besides, you will be expected to contribute to discussions in each class, demonstrating an enquiring approach to the topics under discussion. You are also expected and highly encouraged to ask questions, make comments, or disagree with what your fellow students or instructor is saying. Following these rules, you can get 10 points (maximal). Quizzes Quizzes play an important part in your semester grade. Besides, you will have 2 quizzes during the semester (before and after midterm exam). In case you succeed, you can get 10 points (maximal). Each quiz will be administered at the start of class and if you are absent on the day of a quiz, you will not have the opportunity to take it and those points will be lost. Presentation Novel-to-Film Comparative Analysis Project The aim of this project is to engage students in a comprehensive exploration of a chosen literary work and its cinematic counterpart. By reading the novel and watching its movie adaptation, students will gain insights into the creative processes involved in both mediums while honing their analytical and presentation skills. You will get 10 points. Reading Chapters A chapter reading weekly can be an effective approach to engaging students with a longer work of fiction over an extended period. You will get 5 points maximal. All above mentioned make 35 points maximal. The rest 65 points you can get at midterm and final exams. (30 points for Midterm, 35 points for Final) Course Policy Attendance (Lateness): Attendance is important. Absences can be detrimental to one's grade due to the number of class activities (presentations and class participation) and complexity of the subject. For every two (2) unexcused absences one (1) point will be deducted from the grade point average. Free participation is discouraged. Missed exams or assignments: Advance notification should be given if the student is unable to attend a scheduled presentation or test. Full class participation and completion of assigned homework are necessary. Academic Dishonesty: Any <u>plagiarism</u> while studying will be severely penalized, including the possibility of receiving a non-pass for the course. <u>Cheating</u> during the tests will be penalized including the possibility of a zero mark on the test. AI Policy: Students may use artificial intelligence (AI) tools to support their learning, brainstorming, and revision, unless otherwise specified for a particular assignment. However, students are responsible for ensuring that their submitted work reflects their own understanding and effort. Any use of AI tools must be appropriately acknowledged or cited when required. Students should not use AI to generate or complete assignments when the instructor has explicitly prohibited its use. Misrepresenting AI-generated work as entirely one's own may be considered a violation of academic integrity.
Tentative Schedule	

Week	Date/Day (tentative)	Topics	Textbook/Assignments
1	Sep 14-20	Introduction to Children's Literature Understanding Literature and the Child Reader Children's Books in Children's Hands Genres of Children's Literature	<i>Children's Books in Children's Hands: A Brief Introduction to Their Literature</i> <i>Handouts</i>
2	Sep 21-27	Literary Elements of Children's Literature Characterization: How do people emerge from the Page? Plots: How do stories happen? Themes: How do stories convey the meaning? Point of view (stories in the first, second and third person) Style (words, images, metaphors, etc.) <i>Matilda by Roald Dahl</i>	<i>Children's Books in Children's Hands: A Brief Introduction to Their Literature</i> <i>Handouts</i>
3	Sep 28-Oct 4	The Child Reader Responds to Literature Literary meaning making Perspectives on reader response <i>Harry Potter and Philosopher's Stone by J.K.Rowling</i>	<i>Children's Books in Children's Hands: A Brief Introduction to Their Literature</i> <i>Handouts</i>
4	Oct 5-11	Literature Representing Diverse Perspectives Diverse perspectives in the United States Multicultural literature defined Evolution of multicultural literature Issues related to multicultural literature <i>Wonder by R.J.Palacio</i>	<i>Children's Books in Children's Hands: A Brief Introduction to Their Literature</i> <i>Handouts</i>
5	Oct 12-18	Traditional Literature The evolution of traditional literature Categories of traditional literature Traditional literature from many cultures <i>King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table</i>	<i>Children's Books in Children's Hands: A Brief Introduction to Their Literature</i> <i>Handouts</i>
6	Oct 19-25	Picture Books The Evolution of Picture Books Categories of Picture Books How Picture Books Work <i>The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle</i>	<i>Children's Books in Children's Hands: A Brief Introduction to Their Literature</i> <i>Handouts</i>

7	Oct 26-31	Poetry for Children Categories of poetry for children The evolution of children's poetry Elements of poetry <i>The Cat in the Hat</i> by Dr. Seuss	<i>Children's Books in Children's Hands: A Brief Introduction to Their Literature</i> Handouts
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8	Nov 2-8	MIDTERM EXAMINATION	
9	Nov 9-15	Realistic Fiction The evolution of realistic fiction Categories of Realistic Fiction Major Writers of Realistic Fiction and Their Works <i>Anne of Green Gables</i> by L.M.Montgomery	<i>Children's Books in Children's Hands: A Brief Introduction to Their Literature</i> Handouts
10	Nov 16-22	Historical Fiction The evolution of historical fiction Categories of historical fiction Major writers of historical fiction <i>Sarah, Plain and Tall</i> by Patricia MacLachlan	<i>Children's Books in Children's Hands: A Brief Introduction to Their Literature</i> Handouts
11	Nov 23-29	Modern Fantasy and Science Fiction Categories of modern fantasy Criteria for selecting fantasy <i>The Hobbit</i> by JRR Tolkien	<i>Children's Books in Children's Hands: A Brief Introduction to Their Literature</i> Handouts
12	Dec 1-6	Informational Books and Biography Categories of informational books and biography Criteria for selecting informational books and biographies <i>I am Rosa Parks</i> by Brad Meltzer	<i>Children's Books in Children's Hands: A Brief Introduction to Their Literature</i> Handouts
13	Dec 7-13	Inviting Children into Literature The classroom library Reading aloud to children Stories and Storytelling <i>Little Women</i> by Louisa May Alcott	<i>Children's Books in Children's Hands: A Brief Introduction to Their Literature</i> Handouts

14	Dec 14-20	Encouraging Response to Literature: Literary Discussion What Is a Book Club? Organizing Book Clubs Response Strategies	<i>Children's Books in Children's Hands: A Brief Introduction to Their Literature</i> <i>Handouts</i>
15	Dec 21-27	Literature Units in the Curriculum What is a literary Unit? Developing a Literary Unit	<i>Children's Books in Children's Hands: A Brief Introduction to Their Literature</i> <i>Handouts</i>
		FINAL EXAMINATION	