

**DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES
AND CULTURAL STUDIES**
<https://uofa.ualberta.ca/modern-languages-and-cultural-studies>

2015 - 2016 C LIT 480: B1
Advanced Study in Fairy Tales and Folk Tales
(Winter Term)

Instructor: Irene Sywenky
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Time: MWF 13:00 – 13:50
Place: HC L 4
Office Hours: MW 14:00– 15:00,
or by appointment
Course Website: eClass

Course Prerequisite: n/a

Course-based Ethics Approval in place regarding all research projects that involve human testing, questionnaires, etc.?

Yes No, not needed, no such projects approved

Community Service Learning component

Required Optional None

Past or Representative Evaluative Course Material Available

- Exam registry – Students' Union
<http://www.su.ualberta.ca/services/infolink/exam/>
- See explanations below
- Document distributed in class
- Other (please specify)
- NA

Additional mandatory Instructional fees (approved by Board of Governors)

Yes No

Course Description and Objectives:

The course is an advanced study of representative print adaptations of traditional oral folk tales as well as the genre of literary fairy tale and contemporary fantasy. Working in the context of the history and development of folk and fairy tales, students will examine a wide range of representative texts from a variety of historical periods and traditions (Late Antiquity; Middle Ages; Renaissance; Enlightenment; Romanticism; contemporary feminist and postmodern revisionist adaptations). Students will explore in

depth a number of critical approaches to folk tales and fairy tales (structuralism, psychoanalysis, gender studies, cultural studies, pedagogy). Analysis of literary texts will be complemented by film screenings and examples from other media. By the end of this course successful students will be able to identify representative characteristics of oral folk tales; recognize the aesthetic and ideological features of literary fairy tales of various historical periods (e.g., Renaissance, Romanticism, postmodernism), and present an advanced-level analysis of the text(s) of their choice from a specific theoretical perspective.

Required Texts (available at the University Bookstore):

Tatar, Maria, ed. *The Classic Fairy Tales* (Norton)
Rowling, J.K. *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* (Raincoast Books)

A selection of other required texts will be available on eClass.

Recommended Texts:

Zipes, Jack, ed. *The Oxford Companion to Fairy Tales*. Oxford UP, 2000 (library e-resource)
Zipes, Jack, ed. *Don't Bet on the Prince: Contemporary Feminist Fairy Tales in North America and England* (Routledge). (PS 648 F4 D66 1989)
Zipes, Jack, ed. *Spells of Enchantment: The Wondrous Fairy Tales of Western Culture* (Penguin)
Warner, Marina. *From the Beast to the Blonde: On Fairy Tales and Their Tellers*. London: Chatto & Windus, 1995. (GR 550 W382 1995)
Cashdan, Sheldon. *The Witch Must Die: How Fairy Tales Shape Our Lives*. Basic Books, 1999 (library e-resource)

Grade Distribution (see "Explanatory Notes"):

Term work:

| | |
|---|-----|
| Two critical response papers (600-700 words, flexible submission) 2 x 15% | |
| Midterm examination (February 12, 50 minutes) | 25% |
| Class participation | 5% |
| <u>Final project</u> (3000 words, due April 8) | 40% |

Fall / Winter Exam Planner for the 2015-2016 academic year can be found at the following site: <http://www.registraroffice.ualberta.ca/en/Examinations/Fall-2015-Winter-2016-Exam-Planner.aspx>

Date of Deferred Final Exam (if applicable):

n/a

Explanatory Notes on Assignments:

Critical Response Paper: The paper is expected to be approximately 600-700 words long and show your critical and conceptually informed engagement with the text in question. Because this is a short assignment, the paper is expected to offer a narrowly focused critical discussion/analysis of a specific problem or aspect of the text of your choice from the class reading list.

Final Project is a long formal research essay (about 3000 words) where you are expected to present a critical, contextualized analysis of the primary source(s) of your choice. A research essay will allow you to develop a more complex argument (compared to a critical response paper) and engage with the current scholarship on the subject. Although you are still expected to have a personal opinion, you have to situate it within existing academic critique.

More detailed assignment guidelines will be available on eClass

Required Notes:

“Policy about course outlines can be found in Section 23.4(2) of the University calendar.”

Academic Integrity:

“The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the Code of Student Behaviour (online at <http://www.governance.ualberta.ca/en/CodesofConductandResidenceCommunityStandards/CodeofStudentBehaviour.aspx>) and avoid any behaviour which could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University.”

Learning and Working Environment:

The Faculty of Arts is committed to ensuring all students; faculty and staff are able to study and work in an environment safe and free of discrimination and harassment. It does not tolerate behaviour that undermines that environment. The Department urges anyone who feels this policy has been or is being violated to:

- Discuss the matter with the person whose behaviour is causing concern; or
- If that discussion is unsatisfactory, or there is concern that directs discussion is inappropriate or threatening, discuss it with the Chair of the Department.

For additional advice or assistance regarding this policy you may contact the student

ombudservice (<http://www.ombudservice.ualberta.ca/>).

Information about the University of Alberta Discrimination and Harassment Policy and Procedures is described in UAPPOL at

<https://policiesonline.ualberta.ca/PoliciesProcedures/Pages/DispPol.aspx?PID=110> .

Academic Honesty:

All students should consult the information provided by the [Office of Judicial Affairs](#) regarding avoiding cheating and plagiarism in particular and academic dishonesty in general (see the [Academic Integrity Undergraduate Handbook](#) and [Information for Students](#)). If in doubt about what is permitted in this class, ask the instructor.

Students involved in language courses and translation courses should be aware that on-line “translation engines” produce very dubious and unreliable “translations.” **Students in languages courses** should be aware that, while seeking the advice of native or expert speakers is often helpful, **excessive editorial and creative help** in assignments is considered a form of “cheating” that violates the code of student conduct with dire consequences.

An instructor or coordinator who is convinced that a student has handed in work that he or she could not possibly reproduce without outside assistance is obliged, out of consideration of fairness to other students, to report the case to the Associate Dean of the Faculty. See the [Academic Discipline Process](#).

Recording of Lectures:

Audio or video recording of lectures, labs, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior written consent of the instructor or as a part of an approved accommodation plan. Recorded material is to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the content author(s).

Attendance, Absences, and Missed Grade Components:

Regular attendance is essential for optimal performance in any course. In cases of potentially excusable absences due to illness or domestic affliction, notify your instructor by e-mail within two days. Regarding absences that may be excusable and procedures for addressing course components missed as a result, consult sections 23.3(1)) <http://www.registrar.ualberta.ca/calendar/Regulations-and-Information/Academic-Regulation/23.3.html#23.3>) and 23.5.6 (<http://www.registrar.ualberta.ca/calendar/Regulations-and-Information/Academic-Regulation/23.5.html#23.5>) of the University Calendar. Be aware that unexcused absences will result in partial or total loss of the grade for the “attendance and participation” component(s) of a course, as well as for any assignments that are not handed-in or completed as a result.

Policy for Late Assignments:

Students who consult in advance with the instructor regarding contingencies preventing

the timely completion of an assignment may, at the discretion of the instructor, be granted an extension. Otherwise, assignments may be handed in with a 5%-per-day penalty assessed for each day of lateness.

Student Accessibility Services:

If you have special needs that could affect your performance in this class, please let me know during the first week of the term so that appropriate arrangements can be made. If you are not already registered with Specialized Support & Disability Services, contact their office immediately (2-800 SUB; Email sasrec@ualberta.ca; Email; phone 780-492-3381; WEB www.sds.ualberta.ca).

Grading:

Marks for assignments, tests, and exams are given in percentages, to which letter grades are also assigned, according to the table below (“**MLCS Undergraduate Grading Scale**”). The percentage mark resulting from the entire term work and examination then produces the final letter grade for the course.

“MLCS Undergraduate Grading Scale”

| Letter | % | Pts | Descriptor |
|--------|---------|-----|---|
| A+ | 95-100% | 4.0 | Excellent: Superior performance showing understanding and knowledge of subject matter far exceeding expectations. |
| A | 90-94% | 4.0 | Excellent: Superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter. |
| A- | 86-89% | 3.7 | Excellent: Clearly above average performance with complete knowledge of subject matter. |
| B+ | 82-85% | 3.3 | Good |
| B | 75-81% | 3.0 | Good: average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete. |
| B- | 70-74% | 2.7 | Good |
| C+ | 66-69% | 2.3 | Satisfactory: Basic understanding of the subject matter |
| C | 61-65% | 2.0 | Satisfactory |
| C- | 58-60% | 1.7 | Satisfactory |
| D+ | 55-57% | 1.3 | Poor: Marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the subject matter. |
| D | 50-54% | 1.0 | Minimal Pass: Marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the subject matter. |
| F | 0-49% | 0.0 | Failure: Unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements |