



**English 5304: Studies and Research Techniques in General Literature: Children's and Adolescent Literature**  
**Summer 1 2017**

Dr. Sarah Roche

smoreman@sulross.edu

830 762 3004

Office: Castroville 100C

Office Hours: Tuesday through Thursday 9:00 – 3:00 and by appointment

**Course Description**

In English 5304 you will read theoretical articles introducing you to the academic field of children's and adolescent literature. You will also read, interpret, and evaluate literature written for children and adolescents in various genres.

The course grade will be earned by completing weekly discussions, a seminar paper, and two exams.

Note: This is an online course, so please pay special attention to the university policies about web courses below.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Become familiar with the history of Children's and Adolescent Literature. Assessment: Video conferences and reading responses.
- Recognize different theoretical approaches to Children's and Adolescent Literature: Assessment: Article Reviews and Seminar Paper.
- Understand the literary themes, conventions, and motifs characteristic of Children's and Adolescent literature. Assessment: Seminar paper and Final Exam.
- Develop close reading, analytical writing, and online research skills. Assessment: Reading Responses, Seminar Paper, Final Exam.

**SRSU Program Learning Outcomes:** English graduate students will be able to

- Demonstrate an understanding of the significance of major authors, literary works in different genres, and definitive literary movements in British and American literature; assessment: Seminar Paper and Final Exam
- Explicate literary works representative of two periods or genres in British literature and two periods or genres in American literature. Assessment: Seminar Paper
- Employ methodology and terminology used in creative writing or linguistics. Not assessed in ENGL 5304.
- Conduct substantial research to support original interpretations of literary works, provide original applications of literary or linguistic theories, or present literature reviews of authors or genres that have inspired creative writing projects. Assessment: Seminar Paper.

### Required Texts and Resources

- Articles posted to Blackboard
- Books will be read in this order:
  - Samuel Clemens's (Mark Twain's) *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*. Dover ISBN-10: 0486400778  
ISBN-13: 978-0486400778
  - White, E.B. *Charlotte's Web*. HarperCollins; Early edition (April 10, 2012). ISBN-10: 0739477072  
ISBN-13: 978-0739477076
  - Lowry, Louis. *The Giver*. Laurel-Leaf; 2002. ISBN-10: 0440237688 ISBN-13: 978-0440237686
  - Scott O'Dell. *Island of the Blue Dolphins*. HMH Books for Young Readers. 2010.  
ISBN-10: 0547328613 ISBN-13: 978-0547328614
  - Applegate, Katherine. *The One and Only Ivan*. HarperCollins Children's Books, 2013, reprint 2015.  
ISBN-10: 0061992275 ISBN-13: 978-0061992278
  - Yelchin, Eugene. *Breaking Stalin's Nose*. Square Fish (October 15, 2013). ISBN-10: 1250034108  
ISBN-13: 978-1250034106

### Grade Determination

Assignment	Point Distribution	Date Due
Bb Video Conferences	100	Mondays?
Article Reviews	300	6/4, 6/8, 6/11, 6/15, 6/18
Reading Responses	300	6/5, 6/13, 6/20, 6/27,
Seminar Paper	200	6/29
Final Exam	200	7/2

### Grading

- A: 90 – 100
- B: 80 – 89
- C: 70 – 79
- D: 60 – 69
- F: 0 - 59

Final course grades will be given based on these points: A=900-1000 points, B=800-899 points, C=700-799 points, D=600-699 points, F= below 600 points

### POLICIES

#### Online Course Policy

- Students in web-based courses must maintain appropriate equipment and software, according to the needs and requirements of the course, as outlined on the SRSU website. This means you must have the computer and connectivity necessary to stream and view videos, create and post videos, and submit assignments. Rio Grande College computer labs are available as back up.
- Students must submit online assignments through Blackboard, which requires secure login information to verify students' identities and to protect students' information.

- Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, such as Smarthinking, library resources, such as online databases, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website.
- The procedures for filing a student complaint are included in the student handbook. Students enrolled in distance education courses at Sul Ross are expected to adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook.

### Assignments

All assignments are due in Blackboard by 11:59 p.m. on the day they are due.

All assignments are explained in handouts with rubrics outlining how student work is evaluated and graded, both of which will be found in Blackboard.

### Formatting Assignments and Using Blackboard

In order for all of us to be able to open and read your writing, please write and/or save your documents as ".doc, .docx, or .rtf." If you encounter technical problems, contact Sandy Bogus at [sbogus@sulross.edu](mailto:sbogus@sulross.edu) (432 837 8523). If you have trouble accessing documents, changing the internet browser can help. As a rule, Blackboard works best with Google Chrome. Assignments must be submitted to the appropriate assignment link in Blackboard; assignments sent through email cannot be accepted.

### Scholastic Honesty

All work submitted must be your own and must be written exclusively for this class; the use of sources must be appropriately, correctly, and consistently documented. Quotations, paraphrases, or summaries that are not documented and the use of papers written by others constitute plagiarism.

Three different acts are considered plagiarism:

- (1) failing to cite quotations and borrowed ideas,
- (2) failing to enclose borrowed language in quotation marks, and
- (3) failing to put summaries and paraphrases in your own words.

A grade of "F" for the course is earned if the work exhibits any of these kinds of scholastic dishonesty.

### Late Papers/Assignments and Requests for Grade Changes

To pass the class you must successfully complete and turn in to me each assignment by the due date. If you fail to turn in any assignments you may earn an F for the course.

Please discuss your grades with me during the summer term. Once the term is over and I have entered grades into the system, however, I will not consider grade changes unless I, myself, miscalculated. Please do not ask for extra credit or chances to revise after the fifth week of class. You should know that you have the right to appeal your grade. According to the Sul Ross Rio Grande College Student Handbook, "if you disagree with a grade you received, you should discuss it with the instructor of the course. If you are not satisfied with results of that discussion, make an appointment to discuss it with the Chair of the Department [in this case, Dr. Roche]" (17).

### ADA Statement

Sul Ross State University is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request for accessibility services. Students seeking accessibility services must contact Kathy Biddick in Student Services, Room C-102, Uvalde campus. The mailing

address is 2623 Garner Field Road, Rio Grande College-Sul Ross State University, Uvalde, Texas 78801.  
Telephone: 830-279-3003. E-mail: [kbiddick@sulross.edu](mailto:kbiddick@sulross.edu).

## Schedule

### Wednesday, May 31 – Sunday, June 4

**Theory of Children’s and Adolescent Literature, Genres: Traditional Literature and Poetry**

**Assignments Due: Introductory Discussion Board, Video Conference, Article Review**

**Reading: Note this week’s readings can be found under Readings in Blackboard**

Read handouts on and links to literary theory about children’s and adolescent literature: Michael Rosen “Is Children’s Literature Taken Seriously?” Catherine Butler’s “Introduction to Children’s Literature and the Canon,” Roderick McGillis on Children’s Literature and Theory  
Read *Charlotte’s Web* and *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*

### Monday, June 5 – Sunday June 11

**Fantasy**

**Assignments Due: Video conference and article reviews**

Read *The Giver* and *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*

### Monday, June 12 – Sunday June 18

**Assignments Due: reading response, and article reviews**

**Contemporary Magical Realism**

Read *Island of the Blue Dolphins* and *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*

### Monday, June 19 – Sunday June 25

**Contemporary Magical Realism**

**Assignments Due: Video conference, reading response, and article reviews**

Read *The One and Only Ivan*

### Monday, June 26 – Sunday July 2

**Historical Realism**

**Assignments Due: Assignments Due: Video conference, reading response, seminar paper, and final exam**

Read *Breaking Stalin’s Nose*

### Monday July 9

Final grades will be submitted and the Blackboard course will be closed.