

Third Culture Children's Literature

Autumn 2022

Dr John Pazdziora
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KIBER 408B: Meetings by appointment
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Description

This course discusses Western children's literature which has become part of popular culture in Japan. It considers key imported children's books from the Meiji Era to the present, contrasting their context of composition with their Japanese reception. Students will read and watch English versions of these works alongside Japanese adaptations, together with selected writings by childhood theorists from each culture. The objectives are twofold: to help students recognise the shared characteristics of Western children's books that have resonated in Japan and to give them critical methods to understand children's cultures in a transcultural world.

Outcomes

At the conclusion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Engage in academic discussion of children's literatures and cultures.
2. Identify how cultural contexts influence the creation and reception of children's media.
3. Analyze a work of children's literary with consideration of different cultural perspectives.

Course Materials

The instructor will relay course materials and other useful information via Google Classroom. Students should enroll with their ECCS account and consult the Course Schedule for details.

Assessment Scheme

Assessment Component	Brief Description	Weight
Discussion Questions & Reaction Sheets	Students will create lists of 5 to 7 questions about the week's readings, to serve as a starting point for group discussions. They will also write answers to two questions posed by the instructor at the end of each class. Further details will be provided in class.	20%
Unit Reports	Throughout the semester, students will participate in guided discussions of the assigned readings. Students will then develop their own considered interpretations of the materials and respond to ideas presented in class. Further details will be provided on Classroom.	45%
Final Project	Students will write a final paper analyzing works of children's media and may choose between sole authorship OR collaborative writing. Further details will be provided in class.	35%

Attendance

Attendance means more than just being physically in the classroom. Students are expected to be attentive to their classmates and to the instructor, proactive in their use of English, and thoughtfully engaged with whatever assignment they have in hand. Being distracted, lazy, disengaged, excessively tardy, mostly silent, moping melancholy mad, or asleep does not qualify as attendance, and may result in the student being marked as absent. (However, please stay home and do not go to campus if you or a family member may be infected with COVID-19.)

Late Work Policy

Late work is not accepted under any circumstances.

That's it. That's the policy.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism means copying someone else's words, ideas, or data without appropriate attribution. It includes academic dishonesty, missing citations, and discipline-specific plagiarism. There is zero tolerance for plagiarism of any kind, for any reason. Penalties for plagiarism begin with a failing grade (不可) on the plagiarized assignment and can include revocation of credits for the entire semester. Students should consult with Dr Pazdziora promptly if they are not sure what plagiarism is.

Komaba Writers' Studio (KWS)

At KWS, graduate teaching assistants are available to meet with students individually or in groups to provide guidance and advice on coursework and on college writing generally. Tutorials are in Japanese and English. To check KWS opening hours or to book a session, please visit <https://ale2.c.u-tokyo.ac.jp/support/kws/>.

Commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

This class is created to be a welcoming, fully inclusive environment for all students. The materials and activities are intended to respect diversity in backgrounds, perspectives, and identities, including race, gender, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, disability, ethnicity, language, and culture. Students are encouraged to let Dr Pazdziora know if they encounter any form of exclusion or discrimination during the course, or if they have ideas for making the process of learning in this class more accessible for themselves or their classmates.

Disability Support

Students with physical or mental disability, or who think they might have a disability, should contact the Disability Services Office (バリアフリー支援室) to discuss available options for support. Any student registered with Disability Services should contact Dr Pazdziora as soon as possible to arrange reasonable accommodations for this course. Please see <http://ds.adm.u-tokyo.ac.jp/index.html> and <http://dcs.adm.u-tokyo.ac.jp/mhs/guide/> for more details.

COVID-19 Awareness

Students should acquaint themselves with the Health Service Center (保健センター) guidelines for prevention and recognition of COVID-19: <http://www.hc.u-tokyo.ac.jp/covid-19>. Students who are experiencing cold-like symptoms, persistent cough, fever, or shortness of breath, or who have recently been near someone with a positive COVID-19 diagnosis, should promptly seek medical advice. See <https://stopcovid19.metro.tokyo.lg.jp/flow> for more details.

COVID-19 Safety

Please follow all precautionary measures to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 on campus. In particular, please be sure to (一) sanitize your hands before entering the classroom, (二) wear a mask at all times, and (三) maintain a reasonable and respectful social distance from others. Please note that eating and drinking is not permitted in the classroom in principle. Dr Pazdziora will also take steps to ensure the classroom is well-ventilated and suitably arranged, so everyone can have a safe in-person learning experience.

If you unfortunately contract COVID-19 or become a close contact, please email Dr Pazdziora promptly so he can take the necessary steps for the health of the whole class

Course Schedule

Wk.	Theme	Readings/Topics for this session	Assignments
1		Course Introduction	Reaction Sheet (weekly)
2	Alice	Carroll, <i>Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland</i> , wk. 1	Discussion Questions 1
3		Carroll, <i>Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland</i> , wk. 2	DQ 2
4		<i>Hello Kitty: Alice in Wonderland</i> (and friends)	Unit Report 1
5	Winnie-the-Pooh	Milne, <i>Winnie-the-Pooh</i>	DQ 3
6		IN WHICH Pooh and Piglet go on an Exportation, and we learn how Walter Disney built a Very Grand House	DQ 4
7		Yuzuru Hanyu and Idol Culture, Too	Unit Report 2
8	Moomins	Jansson, <i>Finn Family Moomintoll</i>	DQ 4
9		楽しいムーミン家	DQ 5
10		Moominvalley Park & Moominhouse Cafés	Unit Report 3
11	Snoopy	Snoopy Cafés & The Snoopy Museum	DQ 6
12		Schulz, <i>Peanuts</i> (selections)	DQ 7
13		Mark Evanier, “Charles Schulz”	Unit Report 4
	Final Project DUE: January 25, by 5pm		

Course schedule subject to adjustment.