Description: Contemporary Children’s Literature

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Cat-nbr</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Campus</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EDU</td>
<td>8413</td>
<td>30665</td>
<td>1, 2004</td>
<td>EXT</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>TWEMBA</td>
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Academic group: FOEDU
Academic org: FOE002
Student contribution band: 1
ASCED code: 070303

STAFFING
Examiner: Teresa Woolacott

RATIONALE
A study of contemporary children’s literature offers a view of the influences and factors which effect modern writing for children. Such a study can assist in appreciating how literature can be used as a preparation for life.

SYNOPSIS
A study will be made of children’s literature written since World War II, including that originating in the U.S. and U.K., with close reference to Australian children’s literature since 1980. Current themes and issues will be explored to trace how societal pressures have impacted on children’s books.

OBJECTIVES
On completion of this course students will be able to demonstrate:

- knowledge of the development of the science fiction genre in UK and US children's literature since 1945;
- ability to compare trends in UK and US children's literature with Australian children's literature;
- capacity to identify the social factors which influenced the development of children's literature since 1980;
- skills to investigate issues affecting children's literature since 1980; and
- understandings about the difference and similarities in the genres of fantasy, science fiction and speculative fiction.
## TOPICS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Developments in US, UK &amp; Australian children's literature</td>
<td>5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Science fiction/fantasy in Australian children's literature since 1980</td>
<td>25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Social factors influencing Australian children's literature</td>
<td>25.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Issues in Australian children's literature since 1980</td>
<td>25.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Distinguish between the genres of fantasy, science fiction and speculative fiction</td>
<td>20.00</td>
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## TEXT and MATERIALS required to be PURCHASED or ACCESSED:

ALL textbooks and materials are available for purchase from USQ BOOKSHOP (unless otherwise stated). Orders may be placed via secure internet, free fax 1800642453, phone 07 46312742 (within Australia), or mail. Overseas students should fax +61 7 46311743, or phone +61 7 46312742. For costs, further details, and internet ordering, use the 'Textbook Search' facility at http://bookshop.usq.edu.au click 'Semester', then enter your 'Course Code' (no spaces).

(Only available through the USQ Bookshop.)

## REFERENCE MATERIALS:

Reference materials are materials that, if accessed by students, may improve their knowledge and understanding of the material in the course and enrich their learning experience.

- *Australian journal of language and literacy*, (formerly Australian journal of reading)
- *Signal*,
- Papers, *Explorations into children's literature*,
- *Children's literature in education*,
  (H to 98, online 1997 +)
- *Magpies*,
  (H to 2000 / online 2001 +)
- *Reading Time*,
- *Literature base*,
- *Orana*,


(Briefly)


**STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>HOURS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assessment</td>
<td>40.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Directed Study</td>
<td>125.00</td>
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</table>

**ASSESSMENT DETAILS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Marks out of</th>
<th>Wtg(%)</th>
<th>Due date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SPECULATIVE FICTION</td>
<td>50.00</td>
<td>50.00</td>
<td>30 Apr 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(see note 1)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMPARISON OF AUTHORS &amp; NOVELS</td>
<td>50.00</td>
<td>50.00</td>
<td>11 Jun 2004</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTES:**

1. Students please refer to the Introductory Book for information about assessments and assessment due dates.

**IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION**

1 Attendance requirements:
   There are no attendance requirements for this course. However, it is the students' responsibility to study all material provided to them or required to be accessed by them to maximise their chance of meeting the objectives of the course and to be informed of course-related activities and administration.

2 Requirements for students to complete each assessment item satisfactorily:
   To complete each of the assessment items satisfactorily, students must obtain at least 50% of the marks available for each assessment item.

3 Penalties for late submission of required work:
   If students submit assignments after the due date without prior approval then a penalty of 20% of the total marks gained by the student for the assignment will apply for each week late.

4 Requirements for student to be awarded a passing grade in the course:
To be assured of a passing grade, students must demonstrate, via the summative assessment items, that they have achieved the required minimum standards in relation to the objectives of the course by: (i) satisfactorily completing the examination and assignments; and (ii) obtaining at least 50% of the total weighted marks available for all summative assessment items.

5 Method used to combine assessment results to attain final grade:
The final grades for students will be assigned on the basis of the weighted aggregate of the marks (or grades) obtained for each of the summative assessment items in the course.

6 Examination information:
There is no examination in this course.

7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:
There will be no Deferred or Supplementary examinations in this course.

8 University Regulations:
Students should read USQ Regulations 5.1 Definitions, 5.6. Assessment, and 5.10 Academic Misconduct for further information and to avoid actions which might contravene University Regulations. These regulations can be found at the URL http://www.usq.edu.au/corporateservices/calendar/part5.htm or in the current USQ Handbook.

ASSESSMENT NOTES

1 The due date for an assignment is the date by which a student must despatch the assignment to the USQ. The onus is on the student to provide proof of the despatch date, if requested by the Examiner.

2 Students must retain a copy of each item submitted for assessment. This must be produced within five days if required by the Examiner. The student must retain this copy until the grade for this course has been finalised.

3 The examiner may grant an extension of the due date of an assignment in extenuating circumstances.

4 In the event that a due date for an assignment falls on a local public holiday in their area, such as a Show holiday, the due date for the assignment will be the next working day. Students are to note on the assignment cover the date of the public holiday for the Examiner's convenience.

5 Students who have undertaken all of the required assessments in a course but who have failed to meet some of the specified objectives of a course within the normally prescribed time may be awarded the temporary grade: IM (Incomplete - Make up). An IM grade will only be awarded when, in the opinion of the examiner, a student will be able to achieve the remaining objectives of the course after a period of non-directed personal study.

6 Students who, for medical, family/personal, or employment-related reasons, are unable to complete an assignment or to sit for an examination at the scheduled time may apply to defer an assessment in a course. Such a request must be accompanied by appropriate supporting documentation. One of the following temporary grades may be awarded: IDS (Incomplete - Deferred Examination); IDM (Incomplete
Deferred Make-up); IDB (Incomplete - Both Deferred Examination and Deferred Make-up).

7 When there is more than one marker for a single item of assessment, the distributed patterns and means for the different markers will be compared and marks adjusted if necessary.

8 The Faculty will normally only accept assessments that have been written, typed or printed on paper-based media.

9 Marking criteria are provided in course material as mark sheets/guides or as part of assignment specifications.

10 All assessment items must be submitted and passed.

11 Summative assessment items will receive a numerical score. Any ungraded assessment requirement will receive a Pass, Fail or Incomplete.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

1 Students will require access to e-mail and Internet access to USQConnect for this course.

2 Students are to use a recognised referencing system as specified by the course examiner.