Traversing the globe, this course is a “genre” course that discusses the origin and development of the popular (or folk) genres of fables, fairy tales, and parables, and follows their development and evolution into their modern forms. The class surveys the social, political, anthropological, psychological, and literary elements of these genres in their various incarnations throughout time and space.

TEXTS

The Arabian Nights: Sinbad and Other Popular Stories. Norton, 9780393332469
J.M. Barrie, Peter Pan, Penguin, 978-0-14-243793
S. Rushdie, Haroun and the Sea of Stories. Penguin, 0-14-015737-6

REQUIREMENTS

Classes will be conducted partly by lecture and partly by discussion. Students must attend discussion sections regularly and participate in discussions. Your grade will be divided according to the following percentages: 15% first exam, 20% first paper (which is a revision of the essay on the first exam), 30% second paper, 25% final, and 10% class participation. More than three absences in discussion will result in an automatic F for that portion of your grade. Comparative Literature 5 is an Introductory General Education course that satisfies World Cultures, Writing, and or Arts/Humanities. Late papers will be penalized, and no “incompletes” will be granted except for medical reasons or other unforeseeable emergencies. It will be difficult to receive a passing grade in the course if a student fails to complete all the assignments. To satisfy the GE requirement, a student must receive a C- or above in the course. Late papers will be docked half a grade for each class period they are late. Suspected cases of plagiarism will be referred to Student Judicial Affairs.

Thurs Sept. 27 Introductions: Fables and Fairy Tales
Homework: The Canterbury Tales, Prologue, lines.1-42; lines 333-362; lines.447-478; lines 718-end. Marie de France, “The Fox and the Crow”; Panchatantra, “Monkey and the Crocodile,” Fable Supplements #2 on SMARTSITE.

Tues. Oct. 2 The Canterbury Tales, Prologue, lines.1-42; lines 333-362; lines.447-478; lines 718-end; Marie de France, “The Fox and the Crow”; Panchatantra, “Monkey and the Crocodile.”
Homework: Chaucer, “Nun’s Priest’s Tale,” in Canterbury Tales. (pp. 605-643).

Thurs Oct. 4 FRAMED NARRATIVES: Chaucer, “Nun’s Priest’s Tale” in Canterbury Tales (pp. 605-643).

Homework: “The Franklin’s Tale” (pp.441-497).

Thurs. Oct. 11 FRAMED NARRATIVES: “The Franklin’s Tale” (pp.441-497).
Homework: Prepare for Midterm

Tues. Oct. 16 MIDTERM
Homework: Basile, Pentamerone. Read pp. 5-9, “Cenerentola,” 27-30, Pentamerone; Perrault and Grimm versions of “Cinderella”; “Cinderella in China”; “From Perrault to Walt Disney: The Slipper of Cinderella,” all on SMARTSITE.

Thurs. Oct. 18
FRAMED NARRATIVES: Basile, Pentamerone, pp. 5-9, “Cenerentola,” 27-30; Perrault and Grimm versions of “Cinderella”; “Cinderella in China”; “From Perrault to Walt Disney: The Slipper of Cinderella.”

Tues. Oct. 23

Homework: Tales from the Thousand and One Nights/Arabian Nights: "Invocation" and "Prologue," 1001 Nights, #3 on SMART SITE

Tues. Oct. 30 Paper # 1 DUE FRAMED NARRATIVES: Tales from the Thousand and One Nights/Arabian Nights: "Invocation" and "Prologue,” 1001 Nights, #3 on SMART SITE


Tues. Nov. 6 “The Story of Sinbad the Sailor,” “Epilogue," 1001 Nights, #3 handout on SMART SITE.

Homework: Pinocchio, to end.

Tues. Nov. 13 Pinocchio, to end.
Homework: J.M. Barrie, Peter and Wendy in Peter Pan

Thurs. Nov. 15 J.M. Barrie, Peter and Wendy in Peter Pan
Homework: J.M. Barrie, Peter and Wendy in Peter Pan
Tues. Nov. 20 Paper # 2 Due Peter and Wendy

Thurs. Nov. 22 Thanksgiving
Homework: Marie de France, “Lion and the Mouse”; Panchatantra, “Mice who Set the Elephants Free,” Fable Supplements #2 on SMARTSITE; Wizard of Oz.

Tues. Nov. 27
Homework: Baum, Wizard of Oz

Thurs. Nov. 29 Baum, Wizard of Oz.


In Class Final Exam on Friday December 14 in Storer 1322, 8-10AM.