English 306W: Advanced Composition for Children’s Literature (306A)
Section 2 (Schedule #21256) TTh 12:30-1:45 pm, NE-073
Section 3 (Schedule #25958) TTh 5-6:15 pm, LSN-132

Instructor: Ms. Katie Strode
Email: katie.strode@gmail.com
Mailbox: AL 226 (English Office, submit materials to administrative assistant)
Office Location and Hours: AL 280 TTh 2-3 pm and by appointment

Required Texts:
See list on Blackboard in “Syllabus” section—list is the same as 306A

Course Description:
English 306W is a writing intensive class in which we will develop essays of varying lengths engaging the material covered in 306A. This course stresses the writing process—drafting, revising, editing—as well as critical thinking and analysis. We will employ a variety of activities in order to create critical literary analysis including in-class writing, oral critiques, group work, discussions, and peer review. As a community of writers, we will actively read and respond one another's writing in progress. Please remember, all writing in this class is public writing meaning that you should be comfortable sharing what you write with the entire class.

Course Requirements:
1. Class participation: During class, you will be expected to participate in class discussion, group work, and in-class writing. Given that the class is much smaller than 306A, you will have an even larger role to play in building a productive and congenial classroom environment as well as a greater opportunity to speak and contribute. Please be prepared for class with all readings, writings, and homework assignments completed. Unlike the lecture component, simply showing up for class will not earn you the full participation grade. The quality of your contributions will also be a factor.

This class will be a safe place for all opinions and voices to be expressed. It is expected that you will participate appropriately. We are a diverse academic community, and we may encounter issues that typically elicit strong opinions, so it is especially important that you be tolerant, respectful, and considerate of your fellow classmates during any discussions.

2. Homework: There will be periodic homework assignments designed to guide the writing process of your papers. Understand that assignments will be given as I see fit, so check the schedule frequently for updates. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to get the instructions from a peer and complete the homework on time.

3. Peer review and rough drafts: We will be having peer review for many of the papers you write. As I am sure you will find, these will prove invaluable in helping you become a stronger reader and writer. Credit for drafts and peer review are intertwined. Drafts will only be considered for credit when they are brought to class on the date due in hard copy form, the writer taking full part in the peer review process. Pages of notes, an outline, or undeveloped sentences loosely strung together do not count as a draft. Drafts dropped off in class, emailed, or placed in my mailbox as well as drafts submitted late will receive no credit.

4. Papers: During this class you will be writing essays of varying lengths responding to specific prompts. Major papers will not be accepted without regular attendance during the writing process of that paper.

5. Research Paper: A large portion of the second half of the semester will be devoted to writing a
research paper. To develop this paper, you will be creating a prospectus and an annotated bibliography.

Important note: it is your responsibility to hold on to all drafts and graded papers and homework assignments until final grades have been posted.

Grading:
- Participation/Attendance: 15 percent
- Homework/Drafts/Peer Review: 10 percent
- Paper 1: 15 percent
- Paper 2: 15 percent
- Prospectus: 10 percent
- Annotated Bibliography: 10 percent
- Research Paper: 25 percent

Total: 100 percent

Grade Scale:

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Class Policies

Attendance:
Your presence in this class is important for a smooth progression through the semester. Attend each day, be on time, stay seated, and remain for the full duration of class. The way I take attendance for this smaller class will be different than 306A. I will be calling out attendance at the start of each class. If you are late, it’s your responsibility to come see me at the end of class to be marked present. Every time you are more than 10 minutes late or leave class early, it will count as 1/2 an absence. If you are absent, no in-class activities can be made up, and you will be responsible for finding out what work you missed for that day and getting all notes from class from a peer.

While you are welcome and encouraged to inform me about why you are absent, understand that our exchange does not mean your absence is then excused. Excused reasons to be absent from class are: serious illness (with doctor’s note), religious holiday observances, death in the immediate family, and jury duty or other legal reasons. These circumstances should be brought to my attention well beforehand. There are many completely reasonable and understandable reasons why you might not be able to make it to class (or need to leave early or arrive late), but other than the ones stated above, I do not demarcate between “excused” and “unexcused” absences/lates. Ultimately, it’s up to your time management skills to create the conditions in which you can attend class regularly and turn assignments in on time.

Homework/Papers:
Homework is due on the date listed. I will only accept a late homework assignment one class period after it’s due, and then only for half credit. For a paper to be on time it must be turned in following all instructions on the paper prompt. I will accept a late paper for one week after that essay’s original due date. The paper will lose 5 points for each 24 period after the deadline (i.e. if the paper is due by 10 a.m. on a Monday then the first 24 hour period begins at 10:01 a.m. on Monday and runs until 10 a.m. Tuesday. Weekends count as one 24-hour period.). If you decide to turn a paper in on a day I am not on campus, have the administrative assistant time stamp the paper so that I can verify when you turned it in. Throughout the semester, you are not allowed to turn in more than two major assignments late. I will stop accepting late major assignments from you after this total has been reached. However, if you know you
will be absent or if you having extreme scheduling difficulties contact me before the due date (either in class or through email) and we can discuss your issues.

*I will not accept any work turned in after the final exam period ends.*

*I do not accept work over email at any point in the semester.*

**Academic Dishonesty:**
Academic dishonesty of any type provides grounds for disciplinary action by the instructor and/or college. In an exam or quiz setting, no answers may be shared or copied. In written work, no written material may be used without proper quotation marks, footnotes, or appropriate documentation. Ideas, arguments, and concepts taken from another source must be attributed to the author. Cheating and plagiarism will result in a zero for the assignment and possibly the class. Egregious cases will be referred to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities and might result in further disciplinary action by the university. Familiarize yourself with following information for more detailed information about academic dishonesty and the code of conduct to which you will be held in this course:

- Definition of Cheating and Plagiarism: [http://studentaffairs.sdsu.edu/SRR/cheating-plagiarism.html](http://studentaffairs.sdsu.edu/SRR/cheating-plagiarism.html)
- Student Code of Conduct: [http://studentaffairs.sdsu.edu/SRR/conduct1.html](http://studentaffairs.sdsu.edu/SRR/conduct1.html)

**Cell phones/computers:**
I will not tolerate cell phones, smart phones, iPods or other electronic devices disturbing our class. Upon entering the room, these devices must be turned off and stowed in a bag, purse, or pocket. They are not to be left on the desk. Ear buds and headphones should also be taken off and put away. The interruptions such items bring are extremely rude to both me and your fellow classmates. Laptops and tablets may be used but only for tasks directly related to class activities. If I feel you are abusing this policy, I will ask you to put your device away. Do not film, record, or take pictures of other students or me without permission.

**Student Disability Services:**
If you are a student with a disability and believe you will need accommodations for this class, it is your responsibility to contact Student Disability Services at (619) 594-6473. To avoid any delay in the receipt of your accommodations, you should contact Student Disability Services as soon as possible. Please note that accommodations are not retroactive, and that accommodations based upon disability cannot be provided until you have presented your instructor with an accommodation letter from Student Disability Services. Your cooperation is appreciated.

**Writing Center:**
I want to turn your attention to a free campus resource especially relevant to our class—the Writing Center. Located in the Love Library, you can make an appointment with a tutor to discuss your papers. Follow the link below for further information.

[http://writingcenter.sdsu.edu/](http://writingcenter.sdsu.edu/)

**Final notes:**
First, the best way to contact me is through email; I check my email frequently and will respond as soon as I can, but do give me a full 24 hours to respond (after which, you can resend the email). Please do not hesitate to email me with any concerns you have. Finally, I reserve the right to change this syllabus if the need arises. If this happens, you will be notified ahead of time.