

**MOD 2 meets with FLL 59300, FR/JPNS/SPAN 59400
Reading and Viewing Fables & Parables
Summer 2009 (June 15 until July 10)**

**Prof. Beate Allert
MTWTF 9:50am to 12:00 in SC 102
in Stanley Coulter 108 (office hour by appointment)
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Course Description

This course investigates the genres of short narratives, fables and parables. It explores their history and theoretical importance in the Western heritage, literature, and some film. Beginning with Aesop's fables and their reception since Antiquity, we shall study literary examples mainly from European and American traditions (up to loony tunes today) while investigating forms of diversity as described concerning family relations, siblings, generations, gender, class, nationality, and any possible divides across the same or other species, whether characters belong to a human or to an animal world, to earth or beyond. We shall find out how human relationships are being described and perhaps altered by these short narratives. Why are people turning to the animal world to express what they see or want to see? How can perhaps features of minimalism provide the core of their communicative strength?

Grades

The grade will consist of an oral and a written portion. The oral portion counts for 50% and the written portion of 50% of the final grade. The oral portion includes regular active participation in class and presentations. The written portion of the final grade will be based on a minimum of two shorter papers (20%), a Midterm (30%), and an Endpaper of 15-20 pages (50%) due last day class module 2 this summer. The Midterm is a Take-Home Exam with questions on the course material, films plus required reading.

Academic Honesty

Purdue policy requires a statement that Academic Dishonesty has serious consequences and will not be tolerated. S/he who copies or just paraphrases and does not reference properly does not pass the course. Honor code expected.

ADA Statement

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), all qualified students enrolled in this course are entitled to "reasonable accommodations." It is the student's responsibility to inform the instructor of any special needs before the end of the second week of class.

Required Readings/Viewings (available at Vons) in addition to the readings the graduate students provide and the films viewed in class or in HSSE Undergraduate library:

1. *Aesop's Fables. A New Translation by Laura Gibbs.* Oxford World's Classics. Oxford University Press, 2002 (**ISBN 978-0-19-954075-4**).
2. Jean de La Fontaine, *Selected Fables.* Penguin Classics (ISBN-0-140-45524-8) (also see <http://oaks.nvg.org/fonta1.html>)
3. Gotthold Ephraim Lessing, *Nathan the Wise* (Ringparable), *Fables* (online).
4. *Hans Anderson Fairy Tales: a Selection.* Translated from the Danish by L.W. Kingsland. Oxford World's Classics. Introduction and Bibliography by Naomi Lewis. Oxford UP, 1984. (**ISBN -13: 978-0-19-283507-9**).
All stories are available on complete 4CDs of Anderson's work.
5. Juan Manuel, *El Conde Lucanor: A Collection of Medieval Spanish Stories* edited with an Introduction, Translation and Notes by John England. Warminster, UK: Aris & Phillips Ltd, 1987 (HSSE library 861 J87c8-handouts to be provided)
6. E.T.A. Hoffman, *The Nutcracker and The Golden Pot.* Publisher: Dover, 1993 (**ISBN-13: 9780486278063**).
7. Bertolt Brecht, *Collected Stories* (get any edition or in library).
8. Franz Kafka, *The Imperial Message* and other stories (online or handout)
9. *Fairy Tales and Fables from Weimar Days*, edited and translated by Jack Zipes. Hanover and London: University Press of New England, 1989. (**ISBN 0-87451-501-7**) This volume contains fables by Kurt Schwitters, Carl Ewald, Berta Lask, Anna Mosegard, Joachim Ringelnatz, Hermynia zur Mühlen, if out of print some Xeroxes will be provided.
10. Joel Chandler Harris, *Uncle Remus.* Penguin Classics. New York: Penguin, 1986 (**ISBN 0 14 03. 9014 6**).
11. George Orwell, *Animal Farm.* From the George Orwell's Classic Novel 1954 color film 72 minutes. A film by John Halas and Joy Batchelor produced by Halas & Batchelor for the Rochemont Films Inc, BBC: 1995, 2004 Public Media, Inc.(**ISBN 0-7800-2905-4**).
12. George Ade, *Ade's Fables.* Charleston, SC: BiblioBazar: 2007 (**ISBN 978-1-4346-3272-20**) and George Ade, *More Fable.* <http://www.lib.purdue.edu/spcol/fa/> Biblio Bazar 2006 (**ISBN 1-4264-0832-3**).

Tentative Syllabus

**Much will depend on the choices of the graduate students participants
research focus on these and related materials**

Week 1

Monday June 15

introduction to course and to fable: definitions

Tuesday June 16	Aesop & the history of the fable
Wednesday June 17	Western Heritage-reception of fables
Thursday June 18	theory, definitions, traditions
Friday June 19	Western Heritage parables— <u>First Paper due!</u>
Week 2	
Monday June 22	La Fontaine
Tuesday June 23	Juan Manuel, <i>El Conde Lucanor</i>
Wednesday June 24	G.E. Lessing
Thursday June 15	H.C. Anderson (film)
Friday June 26	H.C. Anderson <u>Second Paper due!</u>
Week 3	
Monday June 29	genre questions
Tuesday June 30	Brecht & Kafka
Wednesday July 1	<i>Weimar Days</i> , ed. Jack Zipes
Thursday July 2	more fables & parables
Friday July 3	<u>Hand out Midterm!</u> Independence Holiday-no classes
Week 4	
Monday July 6 –	<u>Midterm due!</u> Harris, <i>Uncle Remus</i>
Tuesday July 7	Orwell, <i>Animal Farm</i>
Wednesday July 8	George Ade
Thursday July 9	Review
Friday July 10	<u>Final Papers Due today in class!</u> End of summer course!

Thank you for your participation in this summer graduate course!