



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
English

Syllabus

Classic British children's literature

Course Code:	ENGABL
Course Title:	Classic British children's literature <i>Klassisk brittisk barnlitteratur</i>
Credits:	7.5
Degree Level:	Undergraduate level
Progressive Specialisation:	First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements (G1N)

Major Field of Study:
ENA (English)

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences 2025-09-05, and is valid from the Spring semester 2026 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

General admission requirements and upper secondary level English 6 or B

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to:

1. give an account of the main features of the historical development of British children's literature 1860-1970 and place such texts in their cultural and ideational context,
2. use the basic tools of literary analysis to analyse and interpret British books for children, and
3. produce structured and coherent literary analyses in Standard English.

Content

The course treats a selection of British literature for children from the 1860s to the 1960s, a century which spans the first and second "golden age" of British children's literature. Novels

and short stories from the period are read and discussed in seminars, both in relation to literary aspects and in relation to the historical context. The course includes basic literary analysis in practice and some introduction to theories and criticism in the research field of children's literature.

The course includes mandatory components, indicated in the schedule. The study guide specifies how to make up for missing mandatory course components.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Learning outcomes 1-3 are assessed based on an individual written take-home exam. Learning outcomes 1 and 2 are also assessed based on active participation in seminars. Learning outcomes 2 and 3 are also assessed based on an individual oral presentation.

If students have a decision from Karlstad University entitling them to Targeted Study Support due to a documented disability, the examiner has the right to give such students an adapted examination or to examine them in a different manner.

Grades

One of the grades Distinction (VG), Pass (G), or Fail (U) is awarded in the examination of the course.

Quality Assurance

Follow-up relating to learning conditions and goal-fulfilment takes place both during and upon completion of the course in order to ensure continuous improvement. Course evaluation is partly based on student views and experiences obtained in accordance with current regulations and partly on other data and documentation. Students will be informed of the result of the evaluation and of any measures to be taken.

Course Certificate

A course certificate will be provided upon request.

Additional information

The local regulations for studies at the Bachelor and Master levels at Karlstad University stipulate the obligations and rights of students and staff.