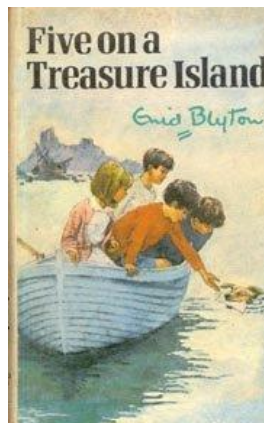
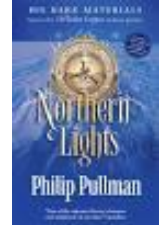


CANG 9165/9265  
**The Invention of Childhood**

Instructor: Layla ROESLER



**Harry Potter**



**Course Description**

Who and what is a child? What do children do? the adult's responsibility regarding the state of Philippe Ariès's *Centuries of Childhood (L'Enfance et la vie familiale sous l'Ancien Régime)*, we will examine the premise that the notion of childhood is a modern invention that has developed its own forms of literature in order to consolidate modern visions of what this period of time is.

In addition to substantive extracts from books identified specifically as children's literature (e.g. works by Philip Pullman, Enid Blyton, J. K. Rowling, Horatio Alger, *et al*), we will read articles with a sociological and civilizational focus. Where possible, we will also compare English-language texts from other European cultures.

What do they read? What is childhood? Starting from

**Objectives**

This course focuses on improving the five competencies in English (aural comprehension, oral expression/interaction, written expression/comprehension) by providing students with

- A selective overview and theory of "children's" literature
- An greater understanding of the linguistic choices available in English speech and writing
- The ability to discuss complex ideas in written and spoken English

**Evaluation**

**Continuous assessment (50%) + Final 800-word essay (50%).**

**The continuous assessment will consist in:**

- **Class participation:** Attendance and active participation in the class are required. It's very important for your individual learning and for the collective experience of the group that all students fully engage in discussions and other in-class activities. Absence or lack of preparation will prevent you from validating this module.
- **Oral presentations:** short oral presentations on readings + a longer presentation of an award-winning novel
- **Written work:** preparatory writing assignments + a 500-word essay