

LIT 3317: The Literature of Fantasy: Harry Potter
Theresa M. Towner
Fall 2024 TR 1-2:15 PM

Course Description and Requirements

J.K. Rowling's series of novels about a boy wizard's years of education now stands complete, but the Harry Potter phenomenon has only begun to make its mark on the global culture. In this course, we will read the seven novels in print and look at other chronicles of Harry's progress through our individual and collective imaginations. Course requirements include three in-class examinations and a final project, each worth 25% of your course grade. Please note that all of the written work for this course must be completed in order for you to pass the course. Students can expect to learn how to use close readings of texts to discover their larger thematic and technical concerns.

You cannot hope to pass this class if you do not attend it and complete all of the required work; more than two unexcused absences will adversely affect your course grade. I do not accept late work or schedule makeup exams; I do not issue grades of incomplete. I do not allow the use of electronic devices in class. This course will be conducted according to strict codes of academic honesty. All breaches of these codes will be reported to the University's judiciary officer. Penalties for deliberate cheating may include failing the assignment in question, failing the course, or suspension and expulsion from the University. Students are expected to know the University's policies and procedures on such matters, as well as those governing student services, conduct, and obligations.

My office hours this semester are on Monday from 1-2 PM and by appointment in JO 5.620. You may phone me at 972-883-2031 and send email to me at tmtowner@utdallas.edu.

Texts

The following editions are available at the UTD Book Store, Off-Campus Books, and commercially. Please use only the American editions of the novels, published by Scholastic Press, in the trade size.

Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone (ISBN 978-0439708180)
Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets (ISBN 978-0439064873)
Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban (ISBN 978-0439136365)
Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (ISBN 978-0439139601)
Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix (ISBN 978-0439358071)
Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince (ISBN 978-0439785969)
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows (ISBN 978-0545139700)

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Syllabus

20 August: Course introduction

22 August: *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*

27 August: *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*

29 August: *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*

3 September: *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*

5 September: *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*

10 and 12 September: *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*

17 September: First examination

19 September: *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*

24 and 26 September: *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*

1 and 3 October: *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*

8 and 10 October: *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*

15 October: Second examination

17 October: *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince*

22 and 24 October: *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince*

29 and 31 October: *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince*

5 and 7 November: *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*

12 and 14 November: *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*

19 November: Reading day; no class

21 November: Third examination

26 and 28 November: Fall break

3 December: No class: final projects due in JO 5.620 at noon

5 December: Course review

7-13 DECEMBER: TBA: Final projects returned in our regular classroom. ATTENDANCE REQUIRED. 50% OF FINAL PROJECT GRADE DEPENDS UPON ATTENDANCE AT THIS SESSION.