ENGL 640, Topics in Children's Literature  
Claudia Nelson  
Fulfills Concepts and English Without Borders distribution requirements

Topic: Representing Boys

This course will look at representations of different archetypes of masculinity to be found within Anglophone children's and young adult literature from the nineteenth century forward. We will consider older and newer figures within an assortment of genres, including the school story, the sea/space story, the "boy and his dog" story, the adventure story, the soldier story, and the story of business success. Likely texts include Thomas Hughes's *Tom Brown's Schooldays*, F. W. Farrar's *Eric*, and J. K. Rowling's *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* (school); Rudyard Kipling's *Captains Courageous* and Robert A. Heinlein's *Space Cadet* (sea/space); Ouida's *A Dog of Flanders*, Jack London's *The Call of the Wild*, and John Donovan's *I'll Get There. It Better Be Worth the Trip.* (dog); Robert Louis Stevenson's *Treasure Island* and Richard Adams's *Watership Down* (adventure); Mary Grant Bruce's *Captain Jim* and Alan Garner's *Red Shift* (soldiers); and Horatio Alger's *Ragged Dick* and Keith Robertson's *Henry Reed's Babysitting Service* (business).