Cultural Studies (CLST)

Courses

CLST 2401. The Italian Origins of Classic Fairy Tales. 3 Credit Hours.

In this course we will trace the Italian origins of some of the best-known fairy tales of the Western tradition. We will compare versions from the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries with later French and German versions. Furthermore, we will discuss international screen adaptations, including Jean Cocteau's surrealist film Beauty and the Beast (1946), Pedro Almodovar's Talk to Her (2002), and a few Disney adaptations. We will analyze such classics as Beauty and the Beast, Cinderella, Sleeping Beauty, Jack and the Beanstalk, and Pinocchio. The course will look at how fairy tales have shaped, strengthened or questioned gender stereotypes, normative gender and sexual identity, and traditional power relations through the lens of gender, feminist and queer theory, psychoanalysis, narratology, and social history.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.