

ENG 3250: Texts & Gender

Fairy Tales



**Dr. Christy
Williams**

What's the difference between a beauty and a beast? And what's with all of the sleeping princesses? Fairy tales are often understood as presenting models of appropriate feminine and masculine behaviors to children, but fairy tales are not just children's stories. Many fairy tales, both classic tales and contemporary retellings, critique gender roles, present alternatives to those roles, and envision new possibilities. In this class, students will engage in feminist, gender, and queer analysis and will examine how gender is constructed and critiqued in fairy tales from the 15th century to today.

This semester's texts: *Marvelous Transformations* edited by Christine Jones & Jennifer Schacker, *The Bloody Chamber* by Angela Carter, *Kissing the Witch* by Emma Donoghue, and fairy-tale films.

Prerequisites: Any WC&IL2 course *or* any introductory literature course.

