



This course is about more than just literature adaptations. In what ways, we shall ask, are texts transformed from one genre to another? If turning a book into a film is perhaps the most obvious form of what we understand under adaptation and what we conceive of as the most often expected link between literature and film, how do films impact on how we read? How does film adaptation feature in fiction, for example? In this module, we shall critically analyse the shifting, ambiguous, and yet creative, two-way relationship between film and literature.

We shall be discussing back projections, transpositions, prequels, remakes, &c as well as different models of discussing them.

The focus is on the changing adaptation of well-known classics. We shall be discussing the cultural myths engendered by *A Christmas Carol*, *Heidi*, and the figure of Sherlock Holmes, as well as transpositions of *Pride and Prejudice* into a different time and context, and also a prequel to *Oliver Twist*. A comparison of the original works with their “reworking” in different media will be essential to this course.

Please also note that students are expected to read all original texts (or “source texts,” listed under Core Texts) as well as watch the adaptations based on these texts.

Presentations can be based on the core texts or other appropriate texts (tbc).

Core Texts

Jane Austen, *Pride and Prejudice*
Frances Hodgson Burnett, *A Little Princess*
Charles Dickens, *A Christmas Carol*
Charles Dickens, *Oliver Twist*
Arthur Conan Doyle, *The Sign of Four*
Johanna Spyri, *Heidi*

Films:

Blackadder's Christmas Carol
Bride & Prejudice
Dr Bell and Mr Doyle: The Dark Beginnings of Sherlock Holmes
"Elementary, Dear Data"
Heidi
A Little Princess
The Little Princess (Musical)
Oliver Twist (Prequel)
Pride and Prejudice (BBC miniseries)
Sherlock Holmes: The Voice of Terror
Scrooged

Lecture Schedule

Week No.	Topics	Readings
12 Jan	Introduction	
19 Jan	Of Accuracy, Authenticity, and Parody: Kohliwood and Costume Drama	<i>Pride and Prejudice</i>
26 Jan	Of Genres and the Generic: The Literary Classic on Television	<i>Oliver Twist</i>
2 Feb	Twisting Oliver: Remaking a Classic	<i>Oliver Twist / Oliver Twist: The Prequel</i>
	Scrooge: Adapting Victorian	<i>A Christmas</i>

Week No.	Topics	Readings
9 Feb	Moral Economies	<i>Carol / Blackadder's Christmas Carol; Scrooged</i>
16 Feb	Holmes for the Times I: Transposition as Updating	<i>The Sign of Four / The Voice of Terror</i>
23 Feb	Holmes for the Times II: Transposition as Intertextuality	<i>The Sign of Four / Dr Bell and Mr Doyle / "Elementary, Dear Data"</i>
2 March	Recess	
9 March	Animating Iconic Landscapes	<i>Heidi</i>
16 March	Presentations	
23 March	Presentations	
30 March	Song & Dance: Musical Versions	<i>A Little Princess</i>
6 April	Q&A	Revision

Course Assessment

Continuous Assessment (including group presentation, write-up, and a lengthy essay) : 50 %

Final Examination: 50 %