Have you ever noticed a theater for a children’s film filled with adults (sometimes without kids)? Do you enjoy animated films made for children? Growing up isn’t easy, and childhood films aren’t just for kids. Our pasts inform our present and future selves, providing insights into our identities, and we as a society have always been fascinated by our own growth. In this course we will find out what we can learn about ourselves and our world by watching the wonders of childhood from around the globe unfold on screen in films such as: *Standby Me* (1986), *Pan’s Labyrinth* (2006), *Persepolis* (2007), *Let the Right One In* (2008), and *Coraline* (2009). Among our concerns with film theory, language, and ideology, are concerns about childhood, conflict, culture and difference represented on screen.