

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
SCHOOL OF INFORMATION SCIENCE

CHILDREN'S LITERATURE & RELATED MATERIALS

DELIVERED ONLINE VIA CANVAS

LIS510. 220 – SUMMER 2016

JUNE 9 – AUGUST 4, 2016

Course Syllabus

Instructor

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Office Hours

Office hours are by appointment. At the scheduled time, please use the following link:
<http://connect.uky.edu/drreynolds/>

Website

<https://sites.google.com/site/youthlitmatters/>

Course Description

A survey of children's literature, traditional and modern. Reading and evaluation of books and multimedia materials with emphasis on the needs and interests of children. Covers media for use by and with children from preschool through grade six.

Course Objectives

- To become aware of, and familiar with, a wide variety of authors, illustrators, and books in the field of children's literature.
- To develop competencies in the exploration and critical evaluation of materials for children.
- To learn to meet the personal and intellectual requirements and interests of individual children through selection of appropriate materials.
- To develop competencies in selecting and presenting books and stories for the purpose of motivating children to enjoy literature and to become lifelong readers.
- To develop an understanding of the potential for using children's literature across the school curriculum.
- To become familiar with basic selection aids and other sources of information about children's trade books.

Course Overview

To complete this course, students will read a wide variety of children's literature from all genres, and experience media related to the literature. Students will complete a group classroom project, quizzes, and other course work to prepare them for engaging young people in the classroom.

Course Outline

- Course Introduction
- Understanding the Read-Aloud Experience
- Engaging Children with Literature in the Curriculum
- Traditional Literature & Poetry
- Picture Books & Illustration
- Realistic Fiction & Modern Fantasy
- Historical Fiction & Biographies
- Informational Books (Nonfiction)
- Literature for a Diverse Society

Course Texts

Required Texts

- Lynch-Brown, C., Tomlinson, C. M., & Short, K. G. (2013). *Essentials of children's literature*, 8th edition. Boston: Pearson. [8th Edition only, please] (Referred to as *Essentials* in class.)
- Trelease, J. (2013). *The read-aloud handbook*, 7th edition. New York: Penguin. [7th Edition only, please] (Referred to as *Trelease* in class.)
- [For the required children's literature, please see the course schedule on the Youthlitmatters website. It is very important to obtain and begin reading these materials before the semester commences.](#)

STUDENT EVALUATION

Grading of Course Work

ASSIGNMENT	POINTS POSSIBLE	DUE
Group Discussion (Participation)	150 (20 x 15)	Weekly
Story Time Observation & Reflection	100	June 30
Midterm Exam	40	Open July 5 & 6
Read Aloud Video & Story Hour Lesson Plan	150	July 14
Classroom Collection	100	July 28
Final Exam	60	Open August 3 & 4

Grading Scale

- 540 – 600 points = **A (Exceptional Achievement: work beyond minimum expectations)**
- 480 – 539 points = **B (High Achievement)**
- 420 – 479 points = **C (Average Achievement)**
- 360 – 419 points = **D (Below Average)**
- 0% – 359 points = **E (Failing)**

Grading Guidelines

- Concise and clear writing is expected at all times. All work will be graded comparatively, including evidence of effort, research, support from course literature, clarity of thought, creativity, and when appropriate, design and awareness of the intended audience.
- To earn an A, all work must be submitted, including each week's discussion. Grades will not be rounded up.

Participation

Class participation is an important component of your grade. The due dates for required discussion posts are posted in the schedule below, as well as within Canvas. Credit will not be given for late responses. Poorly written posts will not be given credit. Your discussion posts must be substantive and thoughtful, but not essays (excessively lengthy posts that do not add to the discussion may be deleted). I encourage you to complete your discussion posts in Word (or other application) and then paste them to the discussion board. If you compose online and there is a technology-related failure, you will likely lose your work. Please see additional information on page 6 below.

Communication with Dr. Reynolds

For questions that do not pertain to the class at large, please use Canvas email to communicate with me. While I will always respond to email and discussion posts as soon as possible, please do not expect an immediate response, especially during the weekend and outside of normal business hours on weekdays. It is each student's responsibility to be certain that all course communications are read in a timely manner. Please do not expect a response to questions relating to assignments on the day that they are due. Plan ahead!

Submission of Course Projects

IMPORTANT: All projects are to be submitted via Canvas by **11:59 PM ET** on the dates indicated on the Course Schedule beginning on page 6 below and on the course calendar in Canvas. Projects will **not** be accepted via email. Unless otherwise indicated, all documents must be submitted as a Word document (.doc or .docx) or as an Adobe Portable Document Format (.pdf) file. Microsoft Office and other software is available for free download. Please see <https://download.uky.edu/> and <http://wiki.uky.edu/software/Wiki%20Pages/Home.aspx>. All written assignments are to be formatted using the Document Template provided in Canvas. Failure to use the Document Template or submitting work that is otherwise poorly formatted will result in grade reduction.

The use of proper English is expected at all times. This includes discussion posts. Writing and citation guides will be provided in Canvas. If you need additional assistance with writing skills, please contact the UK Writing Center (<http://www.uky.edu/AS/English/wc/>). Proper citations/references are always required; this includes picture books, novels, and other materials. APA (6th edition) formatting is required for citations (in-text citations, bibliographies and Works Cited). Please proof your work and ask someone else to as well.

Late Work

It is expected that you will submit course assignments on time. However, life happens. "Normal" life does not stop for any of us just because a semester is in progress. I am always willing to work with you if you get into a bind, but please be proactive. If you are going to be late with an assignment, you need to let me know at least 3 days before the due date. Technology issues are not valid excuses for late work. **Late assignments will not be accepted without prior approval.**

ACADEMIC STANDARDS

Academic Integrity

Per university policy, students shall not plagiarize, cheat, or falsify or misuse academic records. Students are expected to adhere to University policy on cheating and plagiarism in all courses. The minimum penalty for a first offense is a zero on the assignment on which the offense occurred. If the offense is considered severe or the student has other academic offenses on their record, more serious penalties, up to suspension from the university may be imposed.

Plagiarism and cheating are serious breaches of academic conduct. Each student is advised to become familiar with the various forms of academic dishonesty as explained in the Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities. Complete information can be found at the following website: <http://www.uky.edu/Ombud>. A plea of ignorance is not acceptable as a defense against the charge of academic dishonesty. It is important that you review this information as all ideas borrowed from others need to be properly credited.

Part II of *Student Rights and Responsibilities* (available online <http://www.uky.edu/StudentAffairs/Code/part2.html>) states that all academic work, written or otherwise, submitted by students to their instructors or other academic supervisors, is expected to be the result of their own thought, research, or self-expression. In cases where students feel unsure about the question of plagiarism involving their own work, they are obliged to consult their instructors on the matter before submission.

When students submit work purporting to be their own, but which in any way borrows ideas, organization, wording or anything else from another source without appropriate acknowledgement of the fact, the students are guilty of plagiarism. Plagiarism includes reproducing someone else's work, whether it be a published article, chapter of a book, a paper from a friend or some file, or something similar to this. Plagiarism also includes the practice of employing or allowing another person to alter or revise the work, which a student submits as his/her own, whoever that other person may be.

Students may discuss assignments among themselves or with an instructor or tutor, but when the actual work is done, it must be done by the student, and the student alone. When a student's assignment involves research in outside sources of information, the student must carefully acknowledge exactly what, where and how he/she employed them. If the words of someone else are used, the student must put quotation marks around the passage in question and add an appropriate indication of its origin. Making simple changes while leaving the organization, content and phraseology intact is plagiaristic. However, nothing in these Rules shall apply to those ideas, which are so generally and freely circulated as to be a part of the public domain (Section 6.3.1). **Please note:** Any assignment you turn in may be submitted to an electronic database to check for plagiarism.

Disability Accommodation

If you have a documented disability that requires academic accommodations, please see me as soon as possible during scheduled office hours. In order to receive accommodations in this course, you must provide me with a Letter of Accommodation from the Disability Resource Center (Room 2, Alumni Gym, 257-2754, email address: jkarnes@email.uky.edu) for coordination of campus disability services available to students with disabilities.

Incompletes

Student requests for an Incomplete (an I grade) will be considered within University guidelines and only in extreme circumstances. See section 5.1.3.2

<http://www.uky.edu/StudentAffairs/Code/part2.html>.

TECHNOLOGY INFORMATION & RESOURCES

Distance Learning Students are expected to have a minimum level of technological acumen and the availability of technological resources. Students must have regular access a computer with a reliable Internet connection and audio capabilities. Please see the online guide to supported operating systems and browsers: <http://bit.ly/TDKqwy>. Please be certain that your computer and/or browser allow you to view Adobe Reader documents (.pdf). I am your first go-to person for technology problems. E-mail me at stephanie.reynolds@uky.edu for the timeliest response.

Information Technology Customer Service Center (UKIT)

<http://www.uky.edu/ukit/techtips/students>; 859-257-1300

Information on Distance Learning Library Services <http://www.uky.edu/Libraries/DLLS>

- Carla Cantagallo, DL Librarian; Email: dllservice@email.uky.edu
- Local phone number: 859-257-0500, x2171; Out of area: 800-828-0439 (option #6)
- DL Interlibrary Loan Service: <http://libraries.uky.edu/ILL>

COURSE EXPECTATIONS

What I expect from you...

- I expect you to read all of the materials for each module before the module begins.
- I expect you to participate in the discussion in a timely manner and on at least two days per week, and for you to respond thoughtfully to classmates.
- I expect you to proofread all discussion posts and all assignments.
- I expect you to submit assignments on time and to remember that everyone's time is important, not just yours.
- I expect you to plan accordingly so that assignments demonstrate quality work.
- I expect you to proof your work for grammar and spelling errors.
- I expect you to ask for assistance when needed and not to wait until the last minute to do so.

What you can expect from me...

- I will treat you as an individual and with the respect.
- I will not discriminate against you in any way and will respect your well-supported viewpoints.
- I will handle class communication in a professional manner.
- I will not teach what I do not know. I will seek out answers when necessary.
- I will update course information, materials and other readings as necessary.
- If plagiarism, cheating, or other violations of academic integrity are suspected, they will be explored and punishment pursued.
- I will work with you on late work when you communicate with me AHEAD of time. Late work without a legitimate excuse will not be accepted.
- I will make myself available to you through the discussion boards, email, and other avenues as needed.
- To minimize subjectivity when grading, I will use rubrics for grading.
- I will assess your work with honesty based on the criteria provided.
- If I make a mistake when assessing your work, I will make corrections as appropriate.

Small Group Discussion Boards *Every Thursday Through Wednesday*

As a reminder, class participation is an important component of your grade. The due dates for required discussion posts are posted in the schedule below as well as within Canvas. Credit will not be given for late responses. Poorly written posts also will not be given credit. Your discussion posts must be substantive and thoughtful, but not essays (excessively lengthy posts that do not add to the discussion may be deleted). I encourage you to complete your discussion posts in Word (or other application) and then paste them to the discussion board. If you compose online and there is a technology-related failure, you will likely lose your work.

For each week's discussion, you will be given a short list of discussion prompts. Each discussion prompt must be responded to with a separate original post and not as a response to a classmate. As this is to be a discussion, you must also respond to your classmates' posts (at least **three**, but please do **not** respond to every post). I expect you to participate in a timely manner and on at least two days per week with a minimum of three responses to classmate's posts (please note that posting, for example, at 11:55 PM on one day and at 12:05 AM the next does not constitute participating on two different days). If all of your responses are posted on the same day, full credit will not be given.

Remember: please do not post essays. Responses are to be thoughtful and indicate that you understand the material, but longer is not better. Responses to classmates' posts must be more substantial than comments such as, "I agree" or "Great post".

Evaluation Criteria: Completeness and thoughtfulness of responses which demonstrate respect for other points of view, and evidence of comprehension of the textbooks, the required children's literature, and other readings.

Learning Outcomes: To gain an understanding of children and the world in which they live. To recognize how literature can support and enlighten them and how teachers can foster learning and a passion for reading.

Instructions for additional course assignments will be provided in Canvas.