Valdosta State University
Master of Library and Information Science Program
Spring 2014

Syllabus: 7420 Literature for Youth

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Course Description: A study of the materials created for children with emphasis on the process of evaluation in order to meet the educational, cultural, and recreational needs of children.

MLIS Program Objectives (PO)

Graduates of the MLIS Program will:

PO 1. Perform administrative, service, and technical functions of professional practice in libraries and information centers by demonstrating skills in information resources, reference and user services, administration and management, and organization of recorded knowledge and information.

PO 2. Use existing and emerging technologies to meet needs in libraries and information centers.

PO 3. Integrate relevant research to enhance their work in libraries and information centers.

PO 4. Demonstrate professionalism as librarians or information specialists.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. To acquire knowledge of the relationship between children's needs and interests, at various levels.
2. To develop general criteria for evaluating and selecting books and materials for children, and to apply such criteria to a wide range of books and materials, including electronic formats.
3. To become acquainted with the various genres in literature for children, including characteristics, special criteria, representative titles, and major authors in each by reading widely and critically.

4.	To become acquainted with outstanding authors and illustrators for children and with their work, and to develop an understanding of their aims and methods.
5.	To recognize the role of the adult in relation to children and their materials, and to learn techniques for introducing children to literature and for evaluating and encouraging their response to books and materials.
6.	To become acquainted with current issues and trends in the field of literature and materials for children.
7.	To briefly survey the history of children's literature, and contemporary literature for children.
8.	To become aware of major professional publications and sources of information that can help the adult who is using books and materials with children.
9.	To become acquainted with a variety of online resources for children's materials, including online discussion groups, electronic Magazines, online books, and gopher and World Wide Web sites for accessing current information about awards, authors, illustrators, as well as lesson plans and bibliographies.
10.	To acquire knowledge of the issues surrounding the representation of the different cultural groups in the United States in materials meant for children and how to evaluate, select, and employ multicultural materials when designing information programs and services.

Course format
All course meetings and activities will be conducted through BlazeView, Valdosta State University's electronic course management system.

Required course textbooks and resources

Short, K.G., Lynch-Brown, C., Tomlinson, C.M., Short, K.G. (2014). *Essentials of Children's Literature, 8th ed*. Boston, MA: Pearson Education, Inc. ISBN-13: 978-0-13-306673-9

Horning, K. T. (2010). *From Cover to Cover: Evaluating and Reviewing Children's Books, Revised Edition*. HarperCollins Publishers, New York. ISBN: 978-0-06-077757-9 (pbk. bdg.), 978-0-06-077756-2 (trade bdg.)

You will be reading many children's books of different types and genres and keeping notes on your reading each week. You will also read selected articles and other pertinent materials that will be chosen by the instructor and identified in the weekly course folder as required readings.

In addition, students are required to identify books and other materials for children that reflect their own research interests in order to complete several assignments in this course.

Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association [APA Style Manual], 6th ed. (2009). If you have the first printing of the 6th edition, be sure to get the corrections from the APA website.

- Basics of APA style are available at the Purdue University Online Writing Lab [OWL] website: http://owl.english.purdue.edu/ and at http://www.apastyle.org but students will be held to the standards given in the actual APA Style Manual.

Please familiarize yourself with the MLIS policy that prohibits the use of VSU's Interlibrary Loan service for obtaining textbooks at http://www.valdosta.edu/mlis/student_resources/documents/ILL_Textbooks.pdf

ASSIGNMENTS: brief descriptions, full details are available in the Assignments section of the course website.

Each assignment is worth the following points. Your final grade will be based on how the number points (out of 100 possible) you earn over the course of the semester. Details for each assignment are available under the assignments tab of the course website.

Childhood and Society	5 points
Book Reviews (two reviews/5 points each)	10 points
Multicultural Books	10 points
Collection Development Assignment	30 points
Reading notes	30 points
Discussion Board Participation	15 points
Total possible points	100 points

Course Grades
Students can earn a maximum of 100 points in this course as indicated above. Course grades will be awarded as follows:
- A: 90 – 100 points
- B: 80 – 89 points
- C: 70 – 79 points
- D: 60 – 69 points
- F: fewer than 60 points.

NO grade below a C will be credited toward a VSU graduate degree. To be eligible to receive an A in the course a student must complete every assignment. All students admitted Fall 2012 and thereafter must earn a grade of "B" or better in these core courses: MLIS 7000, 7100, 7200, 7300, 7700, and 7800, or repeat the course until a grade of "B" is earned.

Reminder: MLIS 7000 is a core course, and all students admitted in Fall 2012 or thereafter must earn a grade of "B" or better in this course in order to receive credit for the course. Those same students must successfully complete each assignment marked as "necessary to fulfill requirements for this course" in order to complete the course and receive a grade.

An overall grade of zero can be assigned to an entire paper or project if the instructor determines that its contents, or parts of its contents, were completed by a second party or copied into a paper or project from a source without proper citation. **Noncompliance with rules on appropriate use of resources will result in zero credit for those parts of the assignment affected**. If you are unsure about the parameters of an assignment, ask for clarification.

COURSE POLICIES

General Assumptions: Excluding the face to face weekend content, the course is designed for the online learning environment and all course activities will take place inside the course website in BlazeView or on your own in the environment indicated in the assignment descriptions. Distance learning support is available from VSU. Please see: http://www.valdosta.edu/academics/elearning/blazeview-d2l.php

All required readings are summarized on the course calendar and listed in full on the reading list and in the weekly folders. All readings other than the textbook chapters are accessible through GALILEO **or** Valdosta State University's Odum Library online journal access **or** through public access websites **or** through Odum Library course e-reserves **or** will be provided inside the course website in pdf format.

Students are expected to be able to obtain materials from GALILEO and the Odum Library's electronic collections and resources or their equivalents as part of their successful participation in this course. An online services guide for distance education students is on the Odum Library web site at http://www.valdosta.edu/academics/library/services/distance-education.php   Students should feel free to ask a local librarian for help learning to navigate GALILEO.

Attendance: Course content is delivered asynchronously according to the course calendar. It is the student's responsibility to follow the course calendar and participate via BlazeView as indicated at the appropriate times. It is in the student's best interest to log into the BlazeView course delivery system daily to check for announcements and e-mail messages related to the course.

Communication: The course Faculty Office discussion board will be available for the duration of the semester. Please post course-related questions that may be relevant to your classmates on the discussion board. Please read the Faculty Office discussion board regularly. If you have a personal question please send it to the instructor via BlazeView course e-mail. If you would like to speak with the instructor by telephone please ask for an appointment via e-mail so a mutually appropriate time can be determined. If you are in Valdosta and would like to meet face to face please send a message via e-mail to arrange a time. If I am on campus and my office door is open please feel free to come in.

Submitting written assignments: All written work must be submitted as attachments to the relevant assignment dropbox in the BlazeView course website using Word or rtf formats (.doc, .docx, .rtf suffixes only). If you use any word processing program other than Microsoft Word, please save your document in Rich Text Format (rtf). **All written work file names should begin with your last name and first initial and include the assignment name as the file name, for example: DrouillardC_tour.docx**

The university's Information Technology department provides step-by-step guides on how to use VSU's e-mail system and other resources. The IT Help Desk is at http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/it/its/css/helpdesk/
  Their telephone hotline is 229-245-4357.

Late work: All course work is due inside BlazeView on the date and time indicated on the course calendar. Any exceptions without penalties must be negotiated in advance. Technological crises are not an acceptable excuse for submitting work late unless BlazeView is down at the time the work is due.

A grace period of 24 hours is offered without penalty. After 24 hours 20% of the possible grade will be deducted from the student's score for every additional 24 hours or increment thereof that the work is late up until the day the BlazeView assignment submission window closes. If you need additional time to work on an assignment or if you have a scheduling conflict please contact your instructor BEFORE the assignment is due to discuss your situation. The instructor WILL NOT accept work after the assignment submission window closes without prior consent.

University Policies

Academic Honesty at Valdosta State University: "Valdosta State University expects that graduate students will pursue their academic endeavors and conduct themselves in a professional and ethical manner. All work that a student presents to satisfy course requirements should represent his or her own efforts, including appropriate use and acknowledgement of external sources. Specific regulations related to student conduct and behaviors are contained in the Student Handbook, Student Code of Conduct." See also: http://www.valdosta.edu/academics/academic-affairs/vp-office/academic-honesty-policies-and-procedures.php

It is your responsibility to make sure you understand how to avoid breeches of academic integrity. If you are unsure about the parameters of an assignment, ask for clarification. If you need help with citations and research resources and techniques, the university provides extensive resources for students. For help please start at the Odum Library's "how to" page: http://www.valdosta.edu/academics/library/tutorials/citing-your-sources/welcome.php

By taking this course, you agree that all required course work may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to TurnItIn or SafeAssign, a tool within BlazeVIEW. For more information on the use of TurnItIn or SafeAssign at VSU see http://www.valdosta.edu/academics/academic-affairs/vp-office/turnitin-for-students.php http://www.valdosta.edu/academics/academic-affairs/vp-office/safeassign-for-students.php

Accommodations statement: From VSU's Access Office: Students with disabilities who are experiencing barriers in this course may contact the Access Office for assistance in determining and implementing reasonable accommodations. The Access Office is located in Farber Hall. The phone numbers are 229-245-2498 (V), 229-375-5871 (VP) and 229-219-1348 (TTY). For more information, please visit http://www.valdosta.edu/student/disability/ or email: access@valdosta.edu.

If you have a documented disability please contact the Access Office. Once your request for accommodation is submitted please contact the instructor to discuss accommodations or modifications of course content and delivery.

Student Conduct: All interactions related to this class are to be conducted respectfully and professionally whether during face to face meetings, online interactions, small group work, e-mail or telephone communication according to the Student Code of Conduct as presented in the Valdosta State University Student Handbook, beginning on page 65: http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/student-affairs/student-conduct-office/documents/student-handbook.pdf

Student Success Center: http://www.valdosta.edu/academics/student-success-center/ provides free tutoring and support for distance learning students at http://valdosta.askonline.net

Student Agreement: Enrollment in this class signifies that you have agreed to abide by and adhere to the policies and regulations specified above. It is understood that the instructor may adapt or change this syllabus and the assignments contained within it according to circumstances that may arise during the course of the semester.