

LIS 9361
CHILDREN'S MATERIALS BIRTH – 7 YEARS: USE & EVALUATION
Graduate Program of Library and Information Science
Western University
Winter 2019

Instructor: Julie Brandl

Email: jbrandl@uwo.ca

Class: 1:30-4:20 pm, Wednesdays, January 9 – April 10, 2019, FNB 2230

Office Hours: Before or after class, or by appointment. Questions/concerns by email are encouraged.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an introduction to materials for children from birth through 7 years (primarily contemporary but also some historical). Through discussion, readings, lectures and assignments, this course will explore major genres, authors and illustrators, and trends in literature for young children. The use and evaluation of library materials, both print and non-print and both fiction and informational will be examined, as well as supporting the development of younger children as readers and information seekers through their interaction with library materials.

Course objectives:

1. To introduce students to materials for children from birth to 7 years by examining major genres and trends and considering the work of significant authors, illustrators and other creators.
2. To develop students' competence in evaluating fiction and information materials for young children in a variety of formats including print, audio-visual and digital media.
3. To develop students' awareness of the reading and information seeking competencies and interests of young children in the context of their everyday lives and the means by which these may be encouraged and sustained in library settings.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon successful completion of readings, assignments, and class participation, students will be able to:

1. Identify the reading and information seeking needs and interests of very young children and develop collections and services to meet these needs (PLLO 1,2,3,5,7,8,9)
2. Identify, evaluate, select and provide access to library materials for young children in a variety of formats (PLLO 1,2,3,7,8,9)

METHODS OF EVALUATION

Evaluation will be based on the following assignments and activities:

| Assignment | Grade % | Due date |
|---|---------|--|
| Participation and Preparation – in class participation, reflection writings (6 throughout the term), clear evidence of having done readings | 15% | Throughout term |
| Written paper – choose from list of topics provided, or select your own topic (with approval from instructor) | 25% | If group presentation is after Research week, due on February 13. If group presentation is before Research Week, due on March 6 |
| Storytime outlines – outlines of storytimes for 3 different age groups to be prepared with books, rhymes, songs and other activities to enhance the reading experience | 25% | Due April 3 |
| Group presentation – students will sign up for a small group presentation (3-4 people) from a list of topics provided | 20% | Throughout term: weeks 4-12 |
| Picture book reading – students will sign up to read a picture book to the class | 15% | Throughout term: weeks 3-12 |

Attendance at, and timely arrival to, all classes is required, in accordance with FIMS policy for MLIS students.

COURSE MATERIALS

All required readings are available in the FIMS Graduate Library, Western Libraries, or on the open web. Students may need to use other Western University or public library collections for their assignments.

STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC OFFENCES

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_grad.pdf

SUPPORT SERVICES

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Western's "Health and Wellness" at <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

STUDENT ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES (SAS)

Western is committed to achieving barrier-free accessibility for all its members, including graduate students. As part of this commitment, Western provides a variety of services devoted to promoting, advocating, and accommodating persons with disabilities in their respective graduate program.

Graduate students with disabilities (for example, chronic illnesses, mental health conditions, mobility impairments) are encouraged to register with Student Accessibility Services, a confidential service designed to support graduate and undergraduate students through their academic program. With the appropriate documentation, the student will work with both SAS and their graduate programs (normally their Graduate Chair and/or Course instructor) to ensure that appropriate academic accommodations to program requirements are arranged. These accommodations include individual counselling, alternative formatted literature, accessible campus transportation, learning strategy instruction, writing exams and assistive technology instruction.

For more information, see <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssd/>