

**LIS 9367 Services for Children and Young Adults**  
**MLIS Program, Faculty of Information & Media Studies, Western University**  
**Winter 2021**

**1. Course Information**

Time: Distance Course, 11 January to 16 April 2021

OWL site: TBA

**2. Instructor Information**

Instructor: Dr. Davin Helkenberg

Email: dhelkenb@uwo.ca

“Office” Hours: Zoom appointments available by request Mondays.

**3. Course Description**

Introduction to library services for children and young adults. Topics include conceptualizing children and teens, information behaviour, media, multiple literacies, information spaces and places, programs, managing and evaluating services, diversity and inclusive services, community outreach, intellectual freedom and the information rights of children and young adults.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

1. To contribute to an understanding of what it means to be a child or young adult, not only in terms of human development but also of changing constructions and representations of the notions of childhood and adolescence.
2. To identify, interpret and analyse research, professional and popular literatures related to children, young adults, information, media and library services.
3. To develop an understanding of the design, implementation and critical evaluation of library and information services and programming for children and young adults.

**COURSE-LEVEL LEARNING OUTCOMES**

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

1. apply a critical awareness of professional values, standards and ethics in the context of contemporary childhood and adolescence (Program-level learning outcomes 2, 3, 5);
2. prioritize from among a wide range of techniques to assess, recommend, evaluate and create access to information in a variety of formats and contexts for young people (Program-level learning outcomes 2, 6, 8)
3. define the needs of particular user groups of young people and their caregivers, and to develop services, programs and policies to meet these needs (Program-level learning outcomes 3, 5, 8);
4. prepare, design, write and deliver effective professional reports, presentations, and programs, working independently and/or cooperatively with others (Program-level learning outcomes 4, 7, 9).

## Course Requirements

The course will be structured primarily as an asynchronous learning experience, but it will be necessary from time-to-time for students to communicate with me.

Students are expected to “be present” in this class by exhibiting a significant online presence. Students will work in a variety of large group and individual contexts. Students should expect spend *a minimum* of 10-12 hours per week on assignments, reading (i.e., assigned reading, research, exercises), and viewing and listening to resources.

## Grading

Grading follows the [Grading Guidelines published in the MLIS Graduate Student Handbook](#).

## Late Assignments

Late papers will receive a 5% penalty per day including weekends unless there are legitimate and documented grounds for an extension based on compassionate or medical reasons. I do not grant extensions for “press of work”. This is non-negotiable. Assignments will be due on Mondays, at 11:55pm.

**4. Course Materials** All required materials are available electronically through OWL. Additional web-accessible materials will be assigned from time to time. It may also be necessary to consult area libraries for assignment materials.

## 5. Methods of Evaluation (tentative)

10 Weekly Exercises: Weeks 2 to 13 (must complete 10 @ 3% each) = 30%

2 Reflection Papers: Week 1, Week 14 (5% x 2) = 10%

3 Topical Assignments: Weeks 4 (20%), Week 8 (20%), 12 (20%) = 60%

**6. Statement on Academic Offences** 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 website:

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_grad.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_grad.pdf)

See also the section on [Academic Offences in the MLIS Student Handbook](#).

## 7. 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.