INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

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Office: Godbey Hall 78  
Office hours: Summer office hours information: Mondays, 10:00 to 12:00

I will be available every day by email and telephone. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to email me or call me at one of the above numbers. I will check my office voicemail and email at least twice a day and will make every effort to respond to you within a day’s time. Feel free to contact me via my home or cell phone, as I want to be as accessible as possible as you move through the course this summer. If the set office hours are incompatible with your schedule, simply email or call to set up an appointment for another day and time.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3  
Proctored Assessments: None  
Online Activities: Required  
Prerequisite: None  
Description: Surveys the history of children’s literature, considers learning theory and developmental factors influencing reading interests, and uses bibliographic tools in selecting books and materials for recreational interests and educational needs of children.

COURSE MATERIALS


Additional resource materials for some NRCC classes can be found on the NRCC Web-based learning site at www.nr.edu/learninglinks.

The Student’s Guide to Distance Education is available at http://www.nr.edu/de/pdf/stuguide.pdf.
I. COURSE INFORMATION

Prepared By: Sarah Tolbert-Huryasz           Approved By: Carol Hurst

A. INTRODUCTION

This is a Distance Education course designed specifically for those students whose learning styles are best served by providing instructional opportunities beyond the traditional classroom setting. The course is designed for teachers or professionals working with children, parents, and others who like children’s books and would like to know more about them. Through study of the textbook, independent sampling of children’s books, and the completion of various assignments, the student will explore the history of books for children, relevant child development issues, elements of literature, categories of children’s literature, and ways to assist children in experiencing the world of children’s books.

Most children’s literature books in the NRCC library are shelved together. Most can be identified in the computer catalog under adolescent literature or adolescent fiction. The NRCC library includes Newbery Medal and Caldecott Medal winners. The course’s textbook too includes an up-to-date list of award winning books. To complete course assignments, students may also read books from other college libraries, bookstores, public libraries, elementary school libraries, or private collections.

B. COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon the successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Critically analyze and evaluate children’s books for their developmental appropriateness
- Critically analyze and evaluate children’s books for their affirmation of cultural, ethnic, and social diversity
- Describe and analyze the values, ideas, and attitudes toward children found in children’s literature
- Discuss the history of children’s literature
- Identify and discuss the elements of literature found in children’s books
- Discuss theories of child development and their relevance to book selection

General Goals
- To increase awareness and appreciation of the rich and diverse body of children’s literature
- To identify strategies for encouraging reading for joy as well as information
- To increase awareness of the human condition through an exposure to a variety of attitudes toward children and life
- To improve critical thinking and writing skills

C. COURSE CONTENT

- The history of children’s literature
- Child development theories
- The types of children’s literature
- Ways to bring books and children together
D. **GRADING/EVALUATION**

1. Intro letter 5%
   - Weekly writing assignments 15%
   - Discussion boards 10%
   - Three unit tests 50%
   - Final project 20%

2. Grading Scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90 - 100%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>80 - 89%</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>70 - 79%</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60 - 69%</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0 - 59%</td>
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</tbody>
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The three unit tests will be in a short answer format, requiring students to apply, compare and contrast, and critically evaluate the chapter content rather than repeat it. Students can refer to their textbooks while taking these tests and should have them readily available while taking the test online. Tests will be made available online one week prior to scheduled dates for completion and be removed once the due date has passed.

Tests will be administered via Blackboard. **The textbook can be consulted during the test.**

Graded tests will be provided to students on Blackboard (go to "My Grades" on the left menu to find your individual score) one week after their due date.

E. **WITHDRAWAL POLICY**

**Student Initiated Withdrawal Policy**

A student may drop or withdraw from a class without academic penalty during the first sixty percent (60%) of a session. For purposes of enrollment reporting, the following procedures apply:

a. If a student withdraws from a class prior to the termination of the add/drop period for the session, the student will be removed from the class roll and no grade will be awarded.

b. After the add/drop period, but prior to completion of sixty percent (60%) of a session, a student who withdraws or is withdrawn from a course will be assigned a grade of "W." A grade of "W" implies that the student was making satisfactory progress in the class at the time of withdrawal, that the withdrawal was officially made before the deadline published in the college calendar, or that the student was administratively transferred to a different program.

c. After that time, if a student withdraws from a class, a grade of "F" will be assigned. Exceptions to this policy may be made under documented mitigating circumstances if the student was passing the course at the last date of attendance.
A retroactive grade of “W” may be awarded only if the student would have been eligible under the previously stated policy to receive a “W” on the last date of class attendance. The last date of attendance for a distance education course will be the last date that work was submitted.

Late withdrawal appeals will be revised and a decision made by the Coordinator of Student Services.

No-Show Policy
A student must either attend face-to-face courses or demonstrate participation in distance learning courses by the last date to drop for a refund. A student who does not meet this deadline will be reported to the Admissions and Records Office and will be withdrawn as a no-show student. No refund will be applicable, and the student will not be allowed to attend/participate in the class or submit assignments. Failure to attend or participate in a course will adversely impact a student’s financial aid award.

Instructor Initiated Withdrawal
Students who have not attended class or picked up/accessed distance learning materials by the last day to drop the class and receive a refund must be withdrawn by the instructor during the following week. No refund will be applicable.

If a student has not successfully completed assignments that are due by July 5 as indicated on the course schedule, he or she will be withdrawn from the course by the instructor.

F. CHEATING/PLAGIARISM POLICY

Any student found to be cheating on an assignment will receive a grade of zero for that assignment with no opportunity to make it up. Cheating includes:

- Giving or receiving information pertaining to tests
- Plagiarizing, which is taking and using as one’s own the writing or ideas of others without acknowledging them through adequate documentation. This includes taking book reviews from the Internet or any other source. Rewrite completely in your own words and document the source of any information that you consult to complete assignments.

G. DIVERSITY STATEMENT

The NRCC community values the pluralistic nature of our society. We recognize diversity including, but not limited to, race, ethnicity, religion, culture, social class, age, gender, sexual orientation and physical or mental capability. We respect the variety of ideas, experiences and practices that such diversity entails. It is our commitment to ensure equal opportunity and to sustain a climate of civility for all who work or study at NRCC or who otherwise participate in the life of the college.

H. DISABILITY STATEMENT

If you are a student with a documented disability who will require accommodations in this course, please register with the Disability Services Office located in the Counseling Center in Rooker Hall for assistance in developing a plan to address your academic needs.