

Education 465-4 Children's Literature (Primary)

SUMMER SESSION 1983

INSTRUCTOR: Marsha Barry

Wednesday & Friday 8:30 - 12:20

LOCATION: on campus

OBJECTIVES:

The course will introduce you to a survey of the scope and selected aspects of literature for children and to the use of literature with children. (NOTE: This course will focus on books and methodology suitable for primary children)

OUTLINE OF TOPICS:

The study of the scope and selected aspects of literature will exemplify a variety of approaches, viz.:

- the historical and cross-cultural approach (eg. the examination of children's comics, magazines and annuals throughout the English-speaking world during the last century)
- the genre approach (eg. the examination of oral tradition, myth, legend, fable, folk and fairy tales, etc.)
- the theme and issue approaches (eg. the exploration of such themes as the family, friendship, school, etc., and of such issues as old age, death, war, etc.)

The use of literature with children will focus on ways of planning for learning, creating learning environments, and developing strategies, techniques and materials in the use of children's literature in the school curriculum.

TYPICAL REQUIREMENTS:

The course will comprise a broad range of experiences (lectures, seminars, discussion groups, etc.) organized in such a way as to model a student-centred approach and to maximize individualization of learning. The general requirements are as follows:

Attendance and participation in all parts of the program.

Completion of readings, completion of journal cum resource book, completion of assignments.

Demonstration of competency in the fulfilment of a selection of assignments.

The purpose of the assignments, is to initiate you into some of the roles, processes, and activities that a teacher of literature engages in, namely:

- \* Reading/Evaluating - You will read, study, and annotate a broad range of children's literature according to criteria determined by your personal and professional needs and interests.
- \* Communicating - You will engage in a variety of experiences in communicating literature with your peers or with children eg., storytelling, reading aloud, reader's theatre, improvisation, etc. with or without accompanying media and visual aids as appropriate.
- \* Teaching - You will plan and prepare a teaching unit focusing on a genre, a theme, an issue, an author or a book.

RECOMMENDED TEXTS:

Huck, Charlotte S. Children's Literature in the Elementary School. Holt, Rinehart & Winston.

Lukens, Rebecca J. A Critical Handbook of Children's Literature. Scott, Foresman & Co.