

**SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY**

**EDUCATION 465-4**

**CHILDREN'S LITERATURE**

Regular Summer Semester, 1991  
(May 6 - August 2)  
Mondays, 8:30 a.m. - 12:20 p.m.  
Location: MPX 7500B

Instructor: Susan Montabello  
Office: MPX 8634  
Phone: 291-4432 (work)  
420-2745 (home)

---

**PREREQUISITE** - 60 hours of credit.

**OBJECTIVES**

The course will introduce you to: a survey of the scope and selected aspects of literature of children; the use of literature with 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 (e.g. examine a range of literature for children that flourished prior to modern times).
- the genre approach (e.g. the examination of oral tradition, myth, legend, fable, folk and fairy tales, etc.).
- the theme and issue approaches (e.g. 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 environments, and developing strategies, techniques and materials in the use of children's literature in the school curriculum.

**TYPICAL REQUIREMENTS**

The course will comprise of a broad range of experiences (lectures, seminars, discussion groups, etc.) organized in such a way as to model a student-centered 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 reflective response journal, completion of assignments.
- Demonstration of competency in the fulfillment 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 - 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 and with children (e.g. storytelling, reading aloud, reader's theatre, improvisation, etc.).
- \* Creating - you will create an original work (e.g. a picture book, a concept book, an ABC, a collection of verse, a short story, a play, a factual book, etc.) with or without accompanying illustrations.
- \* Teaching - you will plan and prepare a series of learning experiences designed to bring children and books together.

### REQUIRED TEXT

Bettelheim, Bruno. The Uses of Enchantment: The Meaning and Importance of Fairy Tales. Vintage, 1970. (ISBN 0-394-72265-6)

Booth, David, Larry Swartz and Meguido Zola. Choosing Children's Books. Pembroke House, 1987. (ISBN 0-921217-12-9)

Butler, Dorothy. Cushla and Her Books. Penguin, 1987. (ISBN 014-009261-7)

Meek, Margaret, Warlow, Aidan, & Barton, Griselda. The Cool Web: The Pattern of Children's Reading. The Bodley Head, 1977. (ISBN 0-370-30144-7)

Rosen, Betty. And None of It Was Nonsense: The Power of Story Telling in School. Scholastic, 1988. (ISBN 0-590-71956-4)

Trelease, J. The Read-Aloud Handbook. Penguin, 1979, rev. 1985. (ISBN 014-046727-0)

Yolen, Jane. Touch Magic: Fantasy, Faërie and Folklore in the Literature of Childhood. Philomel, 1981. (ISBN 0-399-20830-5)

### RECOMMENDED TEXTS

Norton, Donna E. Through the Eyes of a Child: An Introduction to Children's Literature. Charles E. Merrill, 1987, 2nd edition. (ISBN-0-675-09832-7)

Charlotte S. Huck, et al. Children's Literature in the Elementary School, (Fourth Edition, 1987) Holt Rinehart & Winston: New York.

Zena Sutherland, Dianne L. Monson, May Hill Arbuthnot, Children and Books, (Seventh Edition, 1986) Scott Foresman: Glenview Illinois.

Donelson, Kenneth L. & Nilsen, Alleen Pace. Literature for Today's Young Adults. Scott Foresman, 1980. (ISBN 0-673-15165-4)