

Education 465-4 Children's Literature

INTERMEDIATE

SUMMER SESSION 1983

INSTRUCTOR: Sandra Sellens

Tuesday & Friday 1:00 - 4:50

LOCATION: on campus

COURSE OUTLINE

Course Objectives: This course will provide you with a context for understanding children's literature through a brief social history of the subject. The main objective is to give you an understanding of the nature of children's literature and of the criteria to evaluate works of children's literature. We shall arrive at these criteria by examining closely some works (as far as possible looking at the core curriculum for Grades 4-7) while at the same time ranging as widely as time permits. Beyond this, we shall discuss ways of bringing children and children's literature together in the classroom.

July 5: History of Children's Literature
July 8: Traditional Literature: Folk Tales, Fairy Tales, Fable
July 12: Traditional Literature: Myth, Epic, Bible
July 15: Fantasy, Science Fiction
July 19: Poetry
July 22: Contemporary Realistic Fiction
July 26: Historical Fiction and Children's Classics
July 29: Informational Books, Biography
Aug. 2: Creating the Learning Environment
Aug. 5: Extending Literature through Creative Activities
Aug. 9: The Literature Program
Aug. 12: Final Examination

REQUIREMENTS

The course will comprise a broad range of experiences (lectures, seminars, discussion groups, etc): The general requirements are as follows:

Attendance and participation in all parts of the program.

Completion of readings, completion of assignments.

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

The purpose of the assignments, of which only a selection is required, 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 recognized standards and your own personal and professional needs and interests.

Evaluating: You will prepare a professional review for publication in a professional journal such as Canadian Materials, In Review, Canadian Children's Literature, Quill and Quire, etc.