



FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF COMMUNICATION & INFORMATION
School of Information

LIS 5564 - INFORMATION NEEDS OF CHILDREN (3 CREDITS)

SECTION(S)

TERM 20XX, COURSE MEETING DAY/TIME, COURSE MEETING LOCATION

MODE OF INSTRUCTION: ONLINE

Students all meet with instructor for class weekly, synchronously, using a multi-media conferencing system such as Collaborate, at a specific class time indicated in the University's course schedule for each semester. Additional asynchronous interactions (e.g., discussion forums) among students and with instructor may also be required to complete the course.

Instructor:

Email:

Office:

Phone:

Course Location/Website:

Office Hours (in office, online or via phone):

Teaching Assistant:

Email:

Pre- requisites: There are no pre-requisites for LIS 5564.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

A study of the materials (books, magazines, video & film formats, audio, television, computer software, CD-ROMS, Internet resources, etc.) created for children, ages birth to twelve, with an emphasis on the process of evaluation in order to meet their educational, cultural, and recreational needs.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Goal for Course:

To become acquainted with a wide range of materials for children to meet their educational, cultural, emotional, and recreational needs, and with techniques for their use.

Objectives:

At the end of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Examine the relationship between children's needs and interests, at various levels.
2. Develop general criteria for evaluating and selecting books and materials for children, and to apply such criteria to a wide range of books and materials, including electronic formats.
3. Describe the various genres in Literature for children, including characteristics, special criteria, representative titles, and major authors in each by reading widely and critically.
4. Identify outstanding authors and illustrators for children and with their work, and to develop an understanding of their aims and methods.

5. Recognize the role of the adult in relation to children and their materials, and to learn techniques for introducing children to literature and for evaluating and encouraging their response to books and materials.
6. Research current issues and trends in the field of literature and materials for children.
7. Survey the history of children's literature, and contemporary literature for children.
8. Identify major professional publications and sources of information that can help the adult who is using books and materials with children.
9. Develop in students a permanent interest in the field, so that they will continue to explore new books and materials for children, and will keep in touch with new developments in the field.
10. Familiarize themselves with a variety of online resources for children's materials, including online discussion groups, electronic Magazines, online books, and gopher and World Wide Web sites for accessing current information about awards, authors, illustrators, as well as lesson plans and bibliographies.
11. Articulate the issues surrounding the representation of the different cultural groups in the United States in materials meant for children and how to evaluate, select, and employ multicultural materials when designing information programs and services.

COURSE MATERIALS:

Required Textbook

- Vardell, S. (2014). *Children's Literature in Action: A Librarian's Guide*. 2nd ed. Libraries Unlimited. [This or a similar textbook will be required]

Other Required Reading

In addition to assigned textbook readings, you will be reading many of children's books of different types and genres and keeping a journal on your reading each week. You will also read selected articles and other pertinent materials that will be chosen by the instructor and identified in the course calendar as required readings.

In addition, students are required to identify books and other materials for children that reflect their own research interests in order to complete several assignments in this course.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS AND EVALUATION:

Participation: Includes attendance and participation in class as a whole as well as a member of a small discussion group. All students are expected to take turns being the reporter in small group discussions. Reporters are responsible for keeping the discussion on track, reporting for the group in class, and posting group work to the Small Group discussion board.

Class Participation Rubric
100 points total are possible

Category	Excellent A/A- 23-25 points	Good B+ 22 points	Satisfactory B 21 points	Needs Improvement B- 20 points	Unsatisfactory C+ and below 0-19 points
Attendance Excused absences do not count against your grade.	Attends all classes.	One unexcused absence.	Two unexcused absences	Three unexcused absences.	Four or more unexcused absences.
Frequency of Class participation	Student contributes to discussion in every class	Student contributes to discussion in the majority of class sessions	Student contributes to discussion in at least half of class sessions	Student contributes in less than half of class sessions.	Student does not contribute unless called on by instructor.
Reporting small group discussions	Student reports for small group three or more times during the semester.	Student reports for small group twice during the semester.	Student reports for small group at least once during the semester	Student does not report for small group discussions but adds additional information to class report.	Student never reports for small group discussions and does not contribute to discussions of reports.
Contributes to discussions in a meaningful way	Routinely participates, makes informative comments. Demonstrates command of course content.	Often participates , Comments are insightful, Demonstrated above average command of course contents	Participates occasionally. Provides useful ideas. Demonstrates average command of course content.	Seldom participates. Comments are not always on-topic or constructive. Demonstrates incomplete command of course content.	Does not contribute does not demonstrate command of course content.

Reading Journals: Students will use the journal format to keep track of their reactions to course assigned children's books. Journal entries will include a full citation for the work and a short reaction to a writing prompt provided on the course site.

Reviews: Students will write two (300 word) book reviews. One of a children's picture book and one of a work of fiction for children ages 9-12.

Writing Assignment: Students will choose one of two topics related to course content on which to write a five-page paper.

Multicultural Paper: Students will choose between three options on which to write a five page paper on multicultural issues in children's literature.

Subject Bibliography: Students will develop a fifteen page, selective annotated bibliography of twenty works in an area of interest of their choice.

GRADE CALCULATION

Each assignment is worth the following set amount of points. Your final grade will be based on how many points (out of 1000 possible) you earn over the course of the semester.

Participation	100 points
Reading journals (three journals, 50 points each)	150 points
Reviews (two reviews, 75 points each)	150 points
Writing assignment	150 points
Multicultural paper	150 points
Subject Bibliography	300 points
Total possible points	1000 points

Grades for coursework will be assigned as outlined below.

A /A-	Student demonstrates full command of course content, a high level of creativity and/or critical thinking that exceeds expectations of assignment
B +	Student demonstrates above average comprehension of course content and exceeds requirements of assignment.
B	Student demonstrates understanding of course content and meets expectations of assignment.
B-	Work fails to respond to all requirements of the assignment. Student demonstrates incomplete understanding of course content.
C+ and below	Student fails to demonstrate adequate understanding of course content. Unsatisfactory work.

GRADING SCALE:

Letter grades are assigned according to the following scale:

A	930-1,000
A-	900-929
B+	880-899
B	830-879
B-	800-829
C+	780-799
C	730-779
C-	700-729
F	699 and below

COURSE SCHEDULE:

WEEK	TOPICS TO BE COVERED
1	Course Overview
2	Choosing and Evaluating Children's Literature
3	Children and Children's Literature
4	Books for Babies and Young Children. Emergent literacy.
5	Picture Books and Children's Book Art
6	Beginning Readers
7	Folklore, Fairy Tales, Fables, and Myths
8	Fantasy and Science Fiction
9	Poetry
10	Contemporary Realism
11	Historical Fiction, Mystery, and Adventure
12	Diversity
13	Books of Information
14	Non-Book Resources
15	Reference Work with Children

SCHOOL POLICIES:**Copyright Statement**

Some of the materials in this course are possibly copyrighted. They are intended for use only by students registered and enrolled in this course and only for instructional activities associated with, and for the duration of, the course. They may not be retained in another medium or disseminated further. They are provided in compliance with the provisions of the Technology, Education, And Copyright Harmonization (TEACH) Act (refer to the 3/7/2001 TEACH Act at www.copyright.gov/legislation/archive/).

Sexual Harassment Policy

It is the policy of the University that its employees and students neither commit nor condone sexual harassment in any form. http://registrar.fsu.edu/bulletin/graduate/information/university_notices/

iSchool Hardware and Software Requirements

A list of all hardware and software requirements for students participating in the School of Information (iSchool) courses can be found at the following location:

<http://ischool.cci.fsu.edu/academics/online/requirements/>

Student Eligibility for an Incomplete Grade

Incomplete ("I") grades will not be assigned, except in the case of exceptional unforeseen circumstances that occur within the last three weeks of the semester and your work has otherwise been satisfactory.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES:**University Attendance Policy:**

Excused absences include documented illness, deaths in the family and other documented crises, call to active military duty or jury duty, religious holy days, and official University activities. These absences will be accommodated in a way that does not arbitrarily penalize students who have a valid excuse. Consideration will also be given to students whose dependent children experience serious illness.

Academic Honor Policy:

The Florida State University Academic Honor Policy outlines the University's expectations for the integrity of students' academic work, the procedures for resolving alleged violations of those expectations, and the rights and responsibilities of students and faculty members throughout the process. Students are responsible for reading the Academic Honor Policy and for living up to their pledge to "...be honest and truthful and...[to] strive for personal and institutional integrity at Florida State University." (Florida State University Academic Honor Policy, found at <http://fda.fsu.edu/Academics/Academic-Honor-Policy>)

Americans With Disabilities Act:

Students with disabilities needing academic accommodation should:

- (1) register with and provide documentation to the Student Disability Resource Center; and
- (2) bring a letter to the instructor indicating the need for accommodation and what type.

Please note that instructors are not allowed to provide classroom accommodation to a student until appropriate verification from the Student Disability Resource Center has been provided.

This syllabus and other class materials are available in alternative format upon request.

For more information about services available to FSU students with disabilities, contact the:

Student Disability Resource Center

874 Traditions Way

108 Student Services Building

Florida State University

Tallahassee, FL 32306-4167

(850) 644-9566 (voice)

(850) 644-8504 (TDD)

sdrc@admin.fsu.edu

<https://dos.fsu.edu/sdrc/>

Syllabus Change Policy

Except for changes that substantially affect implementation of the evaluation (grading) statement, this syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change with advance notice.