

Children's Literature Syllabus

Carol Weintraub

Welcome to Children's Literature!

This rigorous yet enjoyable course will explore a variety of genres and levels of children's literature for all grade and subject instruction. You will collaborate with colleagues to create interdisciplinary and differentiated instruction using literature to help your students master their grade and subject-specific New York State standards. Appropriate for all grade levels and subject teachers.

Dates TBD

Instructor

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I am a literacy specialist and an instructional coach who works as a professional developer at the Suffolk's Edge Teacher Center on Long Island. I also teach graduate classes in literacy, including a course in Children's Literature for Stony Brook University. I will be guiding you in a rigorous yet enjoyable exploration of various genres of children's literature, and ways to implement them in your classroom, no matter what your subject or grade level. You will leave this class with ready-to-implement lessons or units using children's literature to differentiate instruction for your students in all content areas. Please feel free to contact me at any time with the above email address. I am always available to answer your questions and concerns.

Class Objectives

- Participants will self-assess their current practice of literacy instruction.
- Participants will evaluate several "classics" in children's literature
- Participants will design lessons using the genre of realistic fiction.
- Participants will analyze the potential for differentiated instruction in the instructional medium of children's literature.
- Participants will design lessons using the genre of non-fiction.
- Participants will synthesize the use of non-fiction trade books with textbooks in their instructional practice.
- Participants will analyze and evaluate the current research on multicultural literature, including race, gender, and sexual orientation.
- Participants will formulate and debate their own opinions on the best scope and uses of multicultural literature in the classroom.
- Participants will integrate the internet and other technologies with the use of children's literature in their instructional practice.
- Participants will compare their current knowledge and application of children's literature with their knowledge and application prior to the course.

NYS Standards addressed

- ELA Standard 1: Information and Understanding, Listening and Reading, gather and interpret information from texts
- ELA Standard 1: Speaking and Writing, use the "writing process" to produce well-constructed informational texts
- ELA Standard 1: Information and Understanding, Listening and Reading, make appropriate and effective use of strategies to construct meaning from print
- ELA Standard 2: Literary Response and Expression, Speaking and Writing, present responses to and interpretations of literature
- ELA Standard 2: Literary Response and Expression, Listening and Reading, understand and identify the distinguishing features of the major genres
- ELA Standard 2, Literary Response and Expression, Listening and Reading, identify significant literary elements
- ELA Standard 2, Literary Response and Expression, Listening and Reading, read and view text...from a wide range of authors, subjects, and genres
- ELA Standard 3: Critical Analysis and Evaluation, Speaking and Writing, present...in writing...well developed analyses of issues
- ELA Standard 3: Critical Analysis and Evaluation, Listening and Reading, understand that within any group there are many different points of view ...and recognize those differences in texts
- ELA Standard 4: Social Interaction, Reading and Writing, use a variety of print and electronic forms for social communication with peers and adults

Prerequisite Skills and Requirements

Participants will need reliable internet access for several hours, at least three times a week. You will need to know how to use Microsoft Word (Mac or Windows) to create, attach, and download documents. You will need to be able to email fellow participants and engage in chat on Moodle (instructions and a link will be provided prior to the chat).

Inservice credit

Inservice credit will be recommended based on the satisfactory completion of all assignments for the course. See class policies for details. Please carefully peruse the policies, as well as the class roadmap before you register for this class, so you know exactly what will be expected of you.

I look forward to working with you!