Course Information | Tech Requirements | Access & Navigation | Requirements | Communications | Assessment | Course Evaluation | Scholarly Expectations | Resources | Course Policies | UNT Policies

COURSE INFORMATION
- Information Resources for Children
- Summer 2013
- SLIS 4420, 3.0 hours

Instructor Contact Information
- Dr. Daniella Smith
- Office: Discovery Park, e296e
- Phone: (940) 565-3569
- Email: Daniella.Smith@unt.edu

About the Instructor
Dr. Smith is an assistant professor in the Department of Library and Information Sciences. Dr. Smith has a Bachelor’s in Political Science and Social Science, a Master’s in Library and Information Studies (with an emphasis on youth services), a Specialist Degree in Information Studies (with an emphasis on technology), and a Ph.D. in Information Studies. She has been a member of the department since 2010. Dr. Smith has worked in many facets of education including being a research program coordinator for a research center at a university, a classroom teacher, youth services public librarian, and school librarian. Dr. Smith has taught courses regarding school library management, the development of instructional materials using technology, and children’s literature.

Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions
- Pre or Co-requisite: None

Materials – Text, Readings, Supplementary Readings
► REQUIRED COURSE TEXTBOOK:

ADDITIONAL LITERATURE (you will not end up reading all titles):

*Blueberries for Sal* McCloskey  
*Golem* Wisniewski  
*Lon Po Po* Young  
*Rapunzel Zelinski*  
*Saint George and the Dragon* Hodges/Hyman (illus.)  
*The Relatives Came* Rylant  
*The Widow’s Broom* Van Allsburg  
*Tops & Bottoms* Stevens  
*Tuesday Weisner*  
*The Three Pigs* Weisner  
*The True Story of the Three Little Pigs* Scieszka  
*The Three Little Pigs* Blegvad (illus.)  
*The Three Little Pigs* Galdone  
*Pink and Say* Polacco  
*The Butterfly* Polacco  
*Show Way* Woodson  
*Nightjohn* Paulsen  
*Number the Stars* Lowry  
*You Forgot Your Skirt, Amelia Bloomer!* Corey  
*The Borning Room* Fleischman  
*Seedfolks* Fleischman  
*Too Many Tamales* Soto  
*The Lotus* Seed Garland  
*Knots on a Counting Rope* Martin & Archambault  
*Goin’ Someplace Special* McKissack

Additional readings as indicated in the course modules.

*The textbooks should be available in the bookstore. However, if there are no copies available in the bookstore, they can easily be ordered online.*

**Course Description**

In this course students will examine why children read (or do not read) and will learn how to evaluate literature for quality, interest, and literary value; students will be exposed to a variety of children’s literature – both old and contemporary – and will learn techniques for using literature successfully with children.

Although this course may seem self-paced because of the lack of scheduled face-to-face class meetings, there are, in fact, timelines that must be followed. A variety of assignments will be used that include: group discussions and independent assignments.

“Attendance” is mandatory – meaning you must check in to the class often to read posts and get announcements. (Log in at least once daily.) If you do not check in, you will miss posts and notices by the
professor and other students that might help clarify the assignments or give important information about upcoming due dates, etc. **It is your responsibility to keep a calendar handy so that you do not miss deadlines for assignments.**

**TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS / ASSISTANCE**

The following information has been provided to assist you in preparation for the technological aspect of the course. Be sure that your computer’s software is updated in order to access the technology that is required for this course.

- Hardware and software necessary to use Blackboard:
  - Mac: OS 9, OSX
  - Internet Access with Blackboard
  - Headset/Microphone
  - Word Processor
  - Acrobat Reader
  - Scanner/Scanning software
  - Windows Media Player or other type of media players
  - Speakers
  - JAVA

- Browser and computer settings check: http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/students/
- Plug-ins necessary to access course materials and resources: http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/bblearn/

**ACCESS & NAVIGATION**

**Access and Log in Information**

This course was developed and will be facilitated utilizing the University of North Texas’ Learning Management System, Blackboard Learn. To get started with the course, please go to: http://learn.unt.edu

You will need your EUID and password to log into the course. If you do not know your EUID or have forgotten your password, please go to: http://ams.unt.edu.

**Blackboard Learn On Demand Learning Center**

As a student, you will have access to the Blackboard Learn tutorials via the “On Demand Learning Center” website. The address for the website is: http://ondemand.blackboard.com/. It is recommended that you become familiar with the tutorials to better equip you to navigate the course.

**Being a Successful Online Student**

- http://www.ion.uillinois.edu/resources/tutorials/pedagogy/StudentProfile.asp
- http://www.ion.uillinois.edu/resources/tutorials/pedagogy/selfEval.asp
How the Course is Organized
This course is structured around modules. The folders for each module can be accessed from the course home page.

What Should Students Do First?
There is a “Course Introduction” on the course home page. Follow the directions to get started in the class. Please carefully review the syllabus, submit the Zip Code Survey (available on the home page), and submit a working email address through the assignment link entitled “Contact Information”.

How Students Should Proceed Each Week for Class Activities
The materials needed in order to successfully complete course activities are available in the course modules. Documents specific to each assignment are available through the assignment link (accessible from the course toolbar located on the left of the course website). Discussions are located on the course discussion board (accessible from the course toolbar located on the left of the course website). The exams are located in the assessments link (accessible from the course toolbar located on the left of the course website).

Student Support
The University of North Texas provides student technical support in the use of Blackboard and supported resources. The student help desk may be reached at:
Email: helpdesk@unt.edu
Phone: 940.565-2324
In Person: ISB Rm. 119
Regular hours are maintained to provide support to students. Please refer to the website (https://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/) for updated hours.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS
The following is expected of each student enrolled in this class:
1. Completion of course readings
2. Full participation in online discussions
3. The timely completion of assignments using the Blackboard assignment drop box tool
4. Students are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner. This includes being prepared for all class assignments, being flexible to unforeseen changes in schedules and assignments, and exhibiting proper online etiquette. Examples of proper online etiquette can be found at: http://www.ic.sunysb.edu/che326ff/discussion_board/etiquette.pdf

In addition, it is expected that each student will show a high amount of self-initiative in locating the “Additional Literature” for this course. It is the student’s responsibility to locate appropriate literature. This means that students should be willing to go to the university library, public or school libraries, or search online, and go to the bookstore to locate appropriate books.

COMMUNICATIONS
Use the discussion boards as the primary tool to communicate directly with other students and the professor. Please send personal concerns or questions via the course email tool. Students can expect to receive a response to questions within 24 hours on working days. Working days do not include weekends or holidays. Students should not wait until the day before assignments are due to request assistance with assignments. Please be aware that the instructor will not be able to respond to “last
minute” requests for assignment clarification, and students may encounter unforeseen problems with their Internet provider, software, or hardware. Therefore students are encouraged to develop communication networks with other class members via electronic communication vehicles such as the email system within class and discussion boards. Students should consider the communication parameters with regard to assignment due dates.

Students are responsible for reading all discussion posts. Tips and other important information from the professor can be found in “Messages from the Professor.” Also watch for announcements (they will pop up when entering the course or can be accessed from the toolbar). There are separate boards for each scheduled discussion. Feel free to use the “Water Cooler” board to have discussions with each other about various topics of your choice. Keep in mind that you are not allowed to give answers to test questions and assignments or post comments that can be perceived negatively. However, it is great for trouble shooting and providing advice to other students.

ASSESSMENT & GRADING

Grading
Each of the assignments will count equally toward 70% of the total grade. Discussion posts and replies will count for 20% of the total grade. The quizzes will count equally for the remaining 10% of the total grade.

Grading Formula / Grading Scale
Assignments (10 assignments @ 70 points each): 70%
Participation (10 discussions @ 20 points each): 20%
Quizzes (2 quizzes @ 50 points each): 10%

A = 90% - 100%
B = 80% - 89%
C = 70% - 79%
D = 60% - 69%

*All assignments must be completed to earn an A in this class.*

Late Work:
Late assignments will be deducted 15 points a day. Keep in mind that late assignments will not be accepted the last week of class because the instructor will need to submit grades on time. Due dates and times are set on Central Daylight Time. All assignments will be due at 10:00 pm. You are encouraged to start your assignments with plenty of time to spare. When working with technology, it is never a good idea to wait until the last minute!
Assignments and Due Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Welcome Post &amp; Contact Information</td>
<td>6/8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 1 Assignment</td>
<td>6/8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 1 Discussion</td>
<td>6/6- 6/9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 2 Assignment</td>
<td>6/12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 2 Discussion</td>
<td>6/11- 6/13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 3 Assignment</td>
<td>6/15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 3 Discussion</td>
<td>6/14- 6/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 4 Assignment</td>
<td>6/19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 4 Discussion</td>
<td>6/18- 6/20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 5 Assignment</td>
<td>6/19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 5 Discussion</td>
<td>6/18- 6/20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 6 Assignment</td>
<td>6/22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 6 Discussion</td>
<td>6/21- 6/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIDTERM QUIZ</td>
<td>6/15 12:01 am - 6/22 10:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 7 Assignment</td>
<td>6/26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 7 Discussion</td>
<td>6/25- 6/27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 8 Assignment</td>
<td>6/26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 8 Discussion</td>
<td>6/25- 6/27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 9 Assignment</td>
<td>6/29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 10 Discussion</td>
<td>6/28- 6/30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 11 Assignment</td>
<td>7/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 11 Discussion</td>
<td>7/1- 7/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FINAL QUIZ</td>
<td>6/28 12:01 am -7/5 10:00 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please see the Assignments in Blackboard for assignment details and read the requirements carefully. Each module (generally) has one assignment, one original discussion post, and one discussion response. Due dates are listed on individual assignments, on the calendar, and above.

**Assignment Submission Instructions**

Directions for submitting assignments will be attached to each assignment. There will be times when professor-created forms are provided. When they are provided, they must be used. All assignments
must be submitted to the assignment link as a Word document (.doc). Assignments submitted in any other format will not be graded. Files must have the following naming convention: 
**LastName+module#.doc** - meaning your last name (if someone else in the class has the same last name, add your first initial after your last name) and the module number (Example: Smith5.doc, Smith5a.doc [for the first assignment mentioned in the module], or Smith5b.doc [for the second assignment mentioned in the module]). **Your full name must be included at the top of every document.** Deductions will be taken for submitting assignments in the wrong file format, spelling and grammatical errors that interfere with comprehension, and failure to use the correct file naming convention. Assignments must include citations in APA style.

**Participation / Discussions**
Class participation/discussions are worth **20% of your total grade.** Since we are not sitting together in a classroom, participation is graded in a more creative way. Participation means that you complete the required discussion postings for a module by the due date listed. You must also meet the requirements for the post. Here are some basic requirements:

- Posts must include required elements as stated in the instructions.
- Posts must indicate that the student has examined the readings and can articulate and apply concepts.
- Some posts may require that you reply to other students’ posts; replies must be thoughtful, well stated, and thorough. Simple responses such as “I agree” or “you said exactly what I was going to say” are not sufficient to receive credit.
- Original posts and the first reply to a classmate should not be made on the same day. Points will be deducted when this occurs.
- Posts meeting all requirements will earn all of the points. Post meeting most of the requirements will earn half of the points. Posts lacking most or all requirements earn a zero. Late discussion posts will count as a zero.

**Exams**
Two quizzes will be used to evaluate your understanding of textbook readings. Quizzes are available for completion during the duration of the exam period (see dates above & below) and can be taken at any time during that window. You may begin the quiz, close it, and pick up later where you left off. However, pay close attention to the closing date and time so you don’t fail to complete the quiz. You may use your book, course materials, etc. to help you with the quiz.

**Midterm Quiz:** June 15th, 12:01AM CST – June 22nd, 10:00 PM CST
**Final Quiz:** June 28th, 12:01AM CST – July 5th, 10:00 PM CST

If you lose Internet connectivity during the exam, log back in immediately and continue on with the exam. Save your answers often (every 5-10 minutes). If you experience any issues while taking the exam, you must contact the Blackboard Helpdesk immediately so that your issue is documented with a helpdesk ticket number. Considerations regarding exam issues will be made by the instructor on an individual basis based on the documentation.

You can access tests/quizzes by clicking the Assessments link on the course menu or see the quiz/exam icon on the designated page. Each quiz is timed and can be accessed only one time within the scheduled time window. Please read the on-screen instructions carefully before you click “Begin Assessment”.
After each exam is graded and released, you may go back to the Assessments page and click “View All Submissions” to review your exam results after the dates for the quiz have ended. There will be no discussion of the quizzes or quiz grades with other students.

**Posting of Grades of Student Work**
Grades will be posted in the “My Grades” link located in the toolbar.

**COURSE EVALUATION**
Students will complete the SETE at the end of the semester to evaluate the class. In addition, the instructor may choose to administer a supplemental course evaluation.

**SCHOLARLY EXPECTATIONS**

*From the UNT Student Code of Conduct:*  
**Academic dishonesty – plagiarism.** The term “plagiarism” includes, but is not limited to (a) the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgement and (b) the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or by an agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.

Plagiarism is copying by retyping, cutting and pasting, or paraphrasing. In this course, beware of the following:

- Do not quote or paraphrase published sources without explicit reference to the original work. Information used or quoted from other sources must contain a citation, whether the source is a print or electronic source.
  - Citation Machine – [http://citationmachine.net/index2.php?reqstyleid=1](http://citationmachine.net/index2.php?reqstyleid=1)
  - Owl Purdue – [http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/)
- Do not insert parts of another students’ work into your own work. That student trusts you to respect his/her intellectual product.
- Do not copy and paste parts of the course material into your work.

**RESOURCES**
UNT Portal: [http://my.unt.edu](http://my.unt.edu)
UNT Blackboard Student Technical Support:  
[https://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/](https://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/)
UNT Library Information for Off-Campus Users:  
[http://www.library.unt.edu/services/facilities-and-systems/campus-access](http://www.library.unt.edu/services/facilities-and-systems/campus-access)
UNT Computing and Information Technology Center:  
[http://cict.unt.edu/services-solutions/students](http://cict.unt.edu/services-solutions/students)
Computer Labs: General access computer lab information (including locations and hours of operation) can be located at: [http://www.gacl.unt.edu/](http://www.gacl.unt.edu/)
COURSE POLICIES

Penalties for Plagiarism
Plagiarism is illegal, unethical, and unacceptable. Any instances of plagiarism in student work will result in the following penalties: First offense: Grade of zero for the assignment. Second offense: Final course grade reduced by one complete grade. Third offense: Assignment of F (Fail) for final course grade.

Examination Policy
All exams are open-book. Exams must be submitted by the due date. If you lose your Internet connection during the exam, the student should contact the Student helpdesk and document the remedy ticket number before contacting the instructor with the ticket number.

Incompletes
Incompletes will not be assigned for this course.

Drop Policy
To officially withdraw or drop this course, the student must notify the instructor, the SLIS office, and the UNT Registrar. You are not officially dropped until the instructor approves it and the registrar processes it. Denied access to Blackboard Learn does not insure that you are dropped by the Registrar. It is your responsibility to insure that the process is complete. A student who does not participate and does not officially withdraw will receive an F in the course.

Attendance Policy
Students are expected to check into class and read announcements and the discussion boards at least once a day. The instructor is able to track student attendance.

Syllabus Change Policy
There are instances when the instructor may need to change the assignments, grading criteria, and/or assignment due dates listed in this syllabus. If this becomes necessary, the instructor will immediately notify students of the changes via the “Messages from the Professor” discussion board as well as through email.

Copyright Notice
Some or all of the materials on this course Web site may be protected by copyright. Federal copyright law prohibits the reproduction, distribution, public performance, or public display of copyrighted materials without the express and written permission of the copyright owner, unless fair use or another exemption under copyright law applies.

The materials on this site are provided solely for the use of students enrolled in this course and for purposes associated with this course; except for material that is unambiguously and unarguably in the public domain, these materials may not be retained or further disseminated.

Any students, faculty, or staff who use University equipment or services to access, copy, display, perform, or distribute copyrighted works (except as permitted under copyright law or specific license) will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action by the University as well as to those civil and criminal penalties provided by federal law.
Policy on Server Unavailability or Other Technical Difficulties
The University is committed to providing a reliable online course system to all users. However, in the event of any unexpected server outage or any unusual technical difficulty which prevents students from completing a time sensitive assessment activity, the instructor will extend the time windows and provide an appropriate accommodation based on the situation. Students should immediately report any problems to the instructor and also contact the UNT Student Help Desk: helpdesk@unt.edu or 940.565.2324. The instructor and the UNT Student Help Desk will work with the student to resolve any issues at the earliest possible time.

UNT POLICIES
Academic Honesty Policy
You are encouraged to become familiar with the University's Policy of Academic dishonesty found in the UNT Student Handbook at http://studentaffairs.unt.edu/. The content of the Handbook applies to this course. If you are in doubt regarding the requirements, please consult with me before you complete any requirements of the course.

ADA Policy
The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of accommodation by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at http://www.unt.edu/oda. You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323.

Code of Conduct
"The primary concern of the University of North Texas is the student. The university attempts to provide for all students a campus environment that is conducive to academic endeavor and social and individual growth. To that end, rules, regulations and guidelines governing student behavior and the student’s relationship with the university have been formulated into a student code of conduct and discipline. Enrollment at the University of North Texas is considered implicit acceptance of these and other policies applicable to students, all of which are educational in nature and designed to help students understand expectations and accept responsibility for their own actions." Please take the time to read and become aware of the UNT Code of Conduct at http://www.unt.edu/csrr/pdf/conduct/code_of_conduct.pdf.

Important Notice for F-1 Students Taking Distance Education Courses:
Federal Regulation
The paragraph reads:

(G) For F–1 students enrolled in classes for credit or classroom hours, no more than the equivalent of one class or three credits per session, term, semester, trimester, or quarter may be counted toward the full course of study requirement if the class is taken on-line or through distance education and does not require the student’s physical attendance for classes, examination or other purposes integral to completion of the class. An on-line or distance education course is a course that is offered principally through the use of television, audio, or computer transmission including open broadcast, closed circuit, cable, microwave, or satellite, audio conferencing, or computer conferencing. If the F–1 student’s course of study is in a language study program, no on-line or distance education classes may be considered to count toward a student’s full course of study requirement.

University of North Texas Compliance

To comply with immigration regulations, an F-1 visa holder within the United States may need to engage in an on-campus experiential component for this course. This component (which must be approved in advance by the instructor) can include activities such as taking an on-campus exam, participating in an on-campus lecture or lab activity, or other on-campus experience integral to the completion of this course.

If such an on-campus activity is required, it is the student’s responsibility to do the following:

(1) Submit a written request to the instructor for an on-campus experiential component within one week of the start of the course.

(2) Ensure that the activity on campus takes place and the instructor documents it in writing with a notice sent to the International Student and Scholar Services Office. ISSS has a form available that you may use for this purpose.

Because the decision may have serious immigration consequences, if an F-1 student is unsure about his or her need to participate in an on-campus experiential component for this course, s/he should contact the UNT International Student and Scholar Services Office (telephone 940-565-2195 or email internationaladvising@unt.edu) to get clarification before the one-week deadline.