INFO 5420 Literature for Youth

Fall 2021

Instructor Contact

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Communication Expectations:

The General Questions discussion board may be used to ask and answer questions that may be of interest to other classmates. Please send personal concerns or questions directly to the instructor with a message from the Inbox button in the left-side course menu; this tool may also be used to communicate directly with other students in the course. Students can expect to receive a response to questions for the instructor within 1-2 working days, excluding weekends and holidays. Announcements will be posted every Tuesday with additional announcements posted on an as-needed basis. The Center for Learning, Experimentation, Application, and Research provides Online Communication Tips to facilitate communication.

Welcome to UNT!

As members of the UNT community, we have all made a commitment to be part of an institution that respects and values the identities of the students and employees with whom we interact. UNT does not tolerate identity-based discrimination, harassment, and retaliation. UNT’s full Non-Discrimination Policy can be found in the UNT Policies section of the syllabus.

Course Description

Survey of children’s and young adult literature, focusing on awards, genre, multi-cultural and multi-ethnic literature. Involves a wide range of reading, evaluation and development of program skills.

Course Structure

This course is taught exclusively online and is structured around 7 scheduled and asynchronous modules. Occasional optional synchronous sessions will be held on an as-needed basis. The folders for each module can be accessed from the Home page on Canvas and will open according to the course calendar. Assignments will be identified in the appropriate module with due dates given, and linked from the module with instructions. You should expect to devote at least nine hours per week to the work for this course. Many of you have full-time commitments outside of your educational pursuit (job, families, etc.). Please plan and prepare accordingly.
Course Prerequisites or Other Restrictions

This course does not have any prerequisites.

Course Objectives

By the end of the course, students will:

- be able to describe, summarize, and discuss in writing/verbally/through presentations designed with online presentation tools and through quiz assessments, key tenets of the study of children’s and young adult literature.
- have established an electronic blog site in which they compose written critiques of 15 children’s and YA books across the main genres in both fields, analyzing, assessing, and evaluating the books with regard to literary excellence, reader response, and visual literacy.
- have designed and presented a lesson plan based on an important topic related to the field of youth literature.

Materials

There are two required textbooks:


School Library Certification Requirements

To be approved for certification through the Texas Education Agency, upon completing the MLIS or certification courses, Texas students must apply for school librarian certification.

In addition to completing the required certification courses, you will be required to provide evidence of the following:

- Two years as an early childhood-12th-grade classroom teacher in a public or accredited private school;
- A Master's Degree (in most any area of study) from an institution of higher education that is accredited by an accrediting agency, as recognized by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board;
- Completion of a state-approved program in librarianship (courses taken from the prescribed list must be no more than six years old when the application is made for school library certification);
- A passing score on the TExES School Librarianship Certification exam, administered by the state.

Out of state students must meet certification requirements for their state; a passing score on the Texas state certification exam is waived for out of state students but all other requirements for Practicum must be met.
Teaching Philosophy

My primary goal as an educator is to guide my students along their paths to becoming successful future ready librarians. To do so, I synthesize LIS literature, best teaching practices, assessments aligned with student learning outcomes, and a personal drive to engage in continuous improvement, thus resulting in students gaining knowledge and skills applicable to their practice as librarians.

Course Technology & Skills

Minimum Technology Requirements
Provide a list of the minimum technology requirements for students, such as:

- Computer
- Reliable internet access
- Speakers
- Microphone
- Plug-ins
- Microsoft Office Suite
- [Canvas Technical Requirements](#)

Computer Skills & Digital Literacy
Provide a list of course-specific technical skills learners must have to succeed in the course, such as:

- Using Canvas
- Using email with attachments
- Downloading and installing software
- Using spreadsheet programs
- Using presentation and graphics programs

Technical Assistance

Part of working in the online environment involves dealing with the inconveniences and frustration that can arise when technology breaks down or does not perform as expected. Here at UNT we have a Student Help Desk that you can contact for help with Canvas or other technology issues.

**UIT Help Desk:** [UIT Student Help Desk site](#)
**Email:** helpdesk@unt.edu
**Phone:** 940-565-2324
**In Person:** Sage Hall, Room 130
**Walk-In Availability:** 8am-9pm
**Telephone Availability:**
- Sunday: noon-midnight
- Monday-Thursday: 8am-midnight
- Friday: 8am-8pm
- Saturday: 9am-5pm
**Laptop Checkout:** 8am-7pm

For additional support, visit [Canvas Technical Help](#)
Rules of Engagement

Rules of engagement refer to the way students are expected to interact with each other and with their instructors. Here are some general guidelines:

- While the freedom to express yourself is a fundamental human right, any communication that utilizes cruel and derogatory language on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law will not be tolerated.
- Treat your instructor and classmates with respect in any communication online or face-to-face, even when their opinion differs from your own.
- Ask for and use the correct name and pronouns for your instructor and classmates.
- Speak from personal experiences. Use “I” statements to share thoughts and feelings. Try not to speak on behalf of groups or other individual’s experiences.
- Use your critical thinking skills to challenge other people's ideas, instead of attacking individuals.
- Avoid using all caps while communicating digitally. This may be interpreted as “YELLING!”
- Be cautious when using humor or sarcasm in emails or discussion posts as tone can be difficult to interpret digitally.
- Avoid using “text-talk” unless explicitly permitted by your instructor.
- Proofread and fact-check your sources.
- Keep in mind that online posts can be permanent, so think first before you type.

See these Engagement Guidelines for more information.

Course Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Points Possible</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Module 1: Course Overview &amp; Introductions (Opens 8/23/2021)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Introduction Post in Canvas</td>
<td>8/30</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 2: Children's Literature Briefly, Part 1 (Opens 8/31/2021)</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Module 2 Quiz: Children's Literature Briefly, Part 1</td>
<td>9/7</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Module 2 Discussion: Children’s Literature Briefly, Part 1</td>
<td>9/13</td>
<td>35</td>
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<tr>
<td>Module 3: Children's Literature Briefly, Part 2 (Opens 9/14/2021)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Module 3 Quiz: Children's Literature Briefly, Part 2</td>
<td>9/20</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Module 3: Booktalk</td>
<td>9/27</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 4: Children's Literature Briefly Part 3 (Opens 9/28/2021)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Module 4 Quiz: Children's Literature Briefly Part 3</td>
<td>10/4</td>
<td>25</td>
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</tbody>
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Grading

Grading Formula: Total Points = 715

Grading scale
You will be graded according to the following grading scale: *

- 640-715 points = A (90% to 100%)
- 569-639 points = B (80% to 89%)
- 497-568 points = C (70% to 79%) **
- 426-496 points = D (60% to 69%)

*Students must complete all course requirements. Students will not be exempted from any assignments. Completion of all assignments is necessary for a passing grade.

**A semester grade of C or below may NOT be applied to school library certification.

When working with technology, it is never a good idea to wait until the last minute! You are encouraged to start your assignments early and submit well before the deadline.

Course Evaluation

Student Perceptions of Teaching (SPOT) is the student evaluation system for UNT and allows students the ability to confidentially provide constructive feedback to their instructor and department to improve the
quality of student experiences in the course. The survey will be made available during weeks 13, 14 and 15 of the long semesters.

Course Policies

Attendance Policy
Students are required to log into the course through Canvas multiple times a week to view class announcements, check grades, and complete assignments. University policy states the conditions and remedies for school and personal related absences. Visit the University of North Texas’ Attendance Policy

Class Participation
The following is expected of each student enrolled in this class:

- Completion of course readings
- Full participation in online discussions
- Original creation and timely submission of graduate level work
- Proper netiquette: The Center for Learning, Experimentation, Application, and Research provides Online Communication Tips to facilitate communication.

Late Work
If there are extenuating circumstances and you contact me before an assignment’s deadline, we can negotiate another due date. Otherwise, late work will lose 10% per day late until a full week has passed, after which it will not be accepted.

Examination Policy
All quizzes are open book. Students will have access to the quizzes from the date the module opens until 11:59pm CST on the day the quiz is due. The quizzes are not timed.

Assignment Policy
Use the Syllabus to find out when each module will become available, along with the due dates for related assignments and discussion posts. You are welcome to work on tasks ahead of the scheduled times and submit them before the deadlines. All tasks are designed to highlight the module content. All postings and submissions are due at 11:59 p.m. Central Time on the due date.

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 contact the UNT Student Help Desk: helpdesk@unt.edu or 940.565.2324 and obtain a ticket number. The instructor and the UNT Student Help Desk will work with the student to resolve any issues at the earliest possible time.
End of Program Requirements

If you are earning a Master’s degree in Library Science or Information Science, and you began coursework before the Fall of 2019, you are required to take and pass the End of Program Comprehensive Examination as your Capstone Project. If you are earning a Master’s degree in Library Science or Information Science, and you began coursework in Fall 2019 or later, you are required to create an electronic portfolio as your Capstone Project. This electronic portfolio is a project that you should be working on every semester as you progress through your coursework. The Community of Information Professionals site in Canvas is designed to provide information and resources to help you create your ePortfolio. The ePortfolio creation requires you to use a template that is only available in that Canvas site. Also, the ePortfolio creation process includes a review of your work every semester. If you have not received an invitation on Canvas to join the Community of Information Professionals, please contact Dr. Tricia Kuon at tricia.kuon@unt.edu.

Instructor Responsibilities and Feedback

As your instructor I will
- Provide clear and thorough instructions for all course assignments
- Respond to emails, Canvas inbox messages, and discussion board questions within 1-2 business days
- Grade all assignments within 1-2 weeks of their due dates
- Post an announcement when assignments are graded
- Incorporate feedback provided to continually update and improve course content.

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 “Announcements” section as well as through Canvas email.

UNT Policies

Academic Integrity Policy

Academic Integrity Standards and Consequences. According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University.

ADA Policy

UNT 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 a student with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding one’s specific course needs. Students 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. For additional information see the ODA website.

Prohibition of Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation (Policy 16.004)
The University of North Texas (UNT) prohibits discrimination and harassment because of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law in its application and admission processes; educational programs and activities; employment policies, procedures, and processes; and university facilities. The University takes active measures to prevent such conduct and investigates and takes remedial action when appropriate.

Emergency Notification & Procedures
UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to Canvas for contingency plans for covering course materials.

Retention of Student Records
Student records pertaining to this course are maintained in a secure location by the instructor of record. All records such as exams, answer sheets (with keys), and written papers submitted during the duration of the course are kept for at least one calendar year after course completion. Course work completed via the Canvas online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. Students have the right to view their individual record; however, information about student’s records will not be divulged to other individuals without proper written consent. Students are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the University’s policy. See UNT Policy 10.10, Records Management and Retention for additional information.

Acceptable Student Behavior
Student behavior that interferes with an instructor’s ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The University's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including University and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. Visit UNT’s Code of Student Conduct to learn more.

Access to Information - Eagle Connect
Students’ access point for business and academic services at UNT is located at: my.unt.edu. All official communication from the University will be delivered to a student’s Eagle Connect account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect and how to forward e-mail Eagle Connect.

Student Evaluation Administration Dates
Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. The survey will be made
available during weeks 13, 14 and 15 of the long semesters to provide students with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. Students will receive an email from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations via IASystem Notification" with the survey link. Students should look for the email in their UNT email inbox. Simply click on the link and complete the survey. Once students complete the survey they will receive a confirmation email that the survey has been submitted. For additional information, please visit the SPOT website or email spot@unt.edu.

Survivor Advocacy
UNT is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of all forms of sexual misconduct. Federal laws and UNT policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex as well as sexual misconduct. If you or someone you know is experiencing sexual harassment, relationship violence, stalking and/or sexual assault, there are campus resources available to provide support and assistance. The Survivor Advocates can be reached at SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students Office at 940-565-2648.

Important Notice for F-1 Students taking Distance Education Courses

Federal Regulation

To read detailed Immigration and Customs Enforcement regulations for F-1 students taking online courses, please go to the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations website. The specific portion concerning distance education courses is located at Title 8 CFR 214.2 Paragraph (f)(6)(i)(G).

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.

**Student Verification**

UNT takes measures to protect the integrity of educational credentials awarded to students enrolled in distance education courses by verifying student identity, protecting student privacy, and notifying students of any special meeting times/locations or additional charges associated with student identity verification in distance education courses.

See **UNT Policy 07-002 Student Identity Verification, Privacy, and Notification and Distance Education Courses**.

**Use of Student Work**

A student owns the copyright for all work (e.g. software, photographs, reports, presentations, and email postings) he or she creates within a class and the University is not entitled to use any student work without the student’s permission unless all of the following criteria are met:

- The work is used only once.
- The work is not used in its entirety.
- Use of the work does not affect any potential profits from the work.
- The student is not identified.
- The work is identified as student work.

If the use of the work does not meet all of the above criteria, then the University office or department using the work must obtain the student’s written permission.

Download the UNT System Permission, Waiver and Release Form

**Transmission and Recording of Student Images in Electronically-Delivered Courses**

1. No permission is needed from a student for his or her image or voice to be transmitted live via videoconference or streaming media, but all students should be informed when courses are to be conducted using either method of delivery.

2. In the event an instructor records student presentations, he or she must obtain permission from the student using a signed release in order to use the recording for future classes in accordance with the Use of Student-Created Work guidelines above.

3. Instructors who video-record their class lectures with the intention of re-using some or all of recordings for future class offerings must notify students on the course syllabus if students'
images may appear on video. Instructors are also advised to provide accommodation for students who do not wish to appear in class recordings.

Example: This course employs lecture capture technology to record class sessions. Students may occasionally appear on video. The lecture recordings will be available to you for study purposes and may also be reused in future course offerings.

No notification is needed if only audio and slide capture is used or if the video only records the instructor's image. However, the instructor is encouraged to let students know the recordings will be available to them for study purposes.

Academic Support & Student Services

Student Support Services

Mental Health

UNT provides mental health resources to students to help ensure there are numerous outlets to turn to that wholeheartedly care for and are there for students in need, regardless of the nature of an issue or its severity. Listed below are several resources on campus that can support your academic success and mental well-being:

- Student Health and Wellness Center
- Counseling and Testing Services
- UNT Care Team
- UNT Psychiatric Services
- Individual Counseling

Chosen Names

A chosen name is a name that a person goes by that may or may not match their legal name. If you have a chosen name that is different from your legal name and would like that to be used in class, please let the instructor know. Below is a list of resources for updating your chosen name at UNT.

- UNT Records
- UNT ID Card
- UNT Email Address
- Legal Name

*UNT eulDs cannot be changed at this time. The collaborating offices are working on a process to make this option accessible to UNT community members.

Pronouns

Pronouns (she/her, they/them, he/him, etc.) are a public way for people to address you, much like your name, and can be shared with a name when making an introduction, both virtually and in-person. Just as we ask and don’t assume someone’s name, we should also ask and not assume someone’s pronouns.

You can add your pronouns to your Canvas account so that they follow your name when posting to discussion boards, submitting assignments, etc.

Below is a list of additional resources regarding pronouns and their usage:
What are pronouns and why are they important?
How do I use pronouns?
How do I share my pronouns?
How do I ask for another person’s pronouns?
How do I correct myself or others when the wrong pronoun is used?

Additional Student Support Services
- Registrar
- Financial Aid
- Student Legal Services
- Career Center
- Multicultural Center
- Counseling and Testing Services
- Pride Alliance
- UNT Food Pantry

Academic Support Services
- Academic Resource Center
- Academic Success Center
- UNT Libraries
- Writing Lab