



James L. & Dorothy H. Dewar
COLLEGE of EDUCATION
& HUMAN SERVICES
VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY

Department of Library and Information Studies
MLIS 7420 | Literature for Youth
Fall 2023
Three Credit Hours

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Colette Drouillard, Ph.D.
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E-mail: cldrouillard@valdosta.edu
Office Hours: By Appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

A study of the materials created for children with emphasis on the process of evaluation in order to meet the educational, cultural, and recreational needs of children.

TEXTBOOKS / RESOURCE MATERIALS

REQUIRED TEXT(S)

1. Short, K.G. & Cueto, D.W. (2022). *Essentials of Children's Literature, 10th ed.* Boston, MA: Pearson Education, Inc. ISBN-13: 978-0-13-747124-9 (ePub).
2. Horning, K. T. (2010). *From Cover to Cover: Evaluating and Reviewing Children's Books, Revised Edition.* HarperCollins Publishers, New York. ISBN: 978-0-06-077757-9 (pbk. bdg.), 978-0-06-077756-2 (trade bdg.)
3. You will be reading many children's books of different types and genres and keeping notes on your reading each week. You will also read selected textbook chapters (provided or available via Odum Library), articles and other pertinent materials that will be identified in the weekly course folder as required readings.
4. In addition, students are required to identify books, articles and other materials for children that reflect their own research interests in order to complete several assignments in this course.

Additional resources (readings, videos, websites, etc.) will be available electronically via GALILEO databases, on Odum Library course reserve, or through the course BlazeVIEW website.

Please familiarize yourself with the VSU policy that prohibits the use of the Interlibrary Loan service for obtaining textbooks at <https://www.valdosta.edu/academics/library/general/about/policies/ill/borrowing.php>

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to meet these Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs). The SLOs are aligned with MLS program objectives

(<https://www.valdosta.edu/colleges/education/master-of-library-and-information-science/our-program/>):

- SLO 1. Perform administrative, service, and technical functions of professional practice in libraries and information centers by demonstrating skills in **information resources, reference and user services**, administration and management, and **organization of recorded knowledge and information**. (MLIS PO1 – Collection Development project, module discussions)
- To become acquainted with the various genres in literature for children, including characteristics, special criteria, representative titles, and major authors in each by reading widely and critically
 - To become acquainted with outstanding authors and illustrators for children and with their work, and to develop an understanding of their aims and methods
 - To become acquainted with current issues and trends in the field of literature and materials for children
 - To become aware of major professional publications and sources of information that can help the adult who is using books and materials with children
- SLO 2. **Use existing and emerging technologies** to meet needs in libraries and information centers. (MLIS PO2 –module discussions, Book Trailer/Book Talk)
- To become acquainted 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, and illustrators, as well as lesson plans and bibliographies
- SLO 3. **Integrate relevant research** to enhance their work in libraries and information centers. (MLIS PO3 –module discussions, Book Trailer/Book Talk, Book Talk Bibliography, Book Reviews)
- To acquire knowledge of the relationship between children’s needs and interests, at various levels
 - To 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
 - To 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
 - To briefly survey the history of children’s literature, and contemporary literature for children
 - To acquire knowledge of 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
- SLO 4. **Demonstrate professionalism** as librarians or information specialists. (MLIS PO4 – all assignments and discussions)

COURSE ACTIVITIES/ASSIGNMENTS/REQUIREMENTS

Course activities include a set of readings and assignments. Details for each week are posted in the appropriate folder on the course website. *It is the student's responsibility to check the course calendar for DUE DATES for all class work and the weekly folders and assignment folders for all required and supplemental readings and other materials.* Full descriptions of all required course work are provided in the assignments section of the course website.

Students in this course are expected to: 1) Read or view all assigned materials; 2) Participate in class activities; 3) Submit all projects on time and according to the format designated by the instructor; 4) Conduct all research and composition according to the VSU Academic Honesty Policy. See the COEHS Policy on Plagiarism link below.

Weekly readings: From the LIS professional and academic literature as indicated in the detailed reading list and are summarized on the course calendar. Articles will be available via GALILEO, or through VSU's Odum Library online course reserves, or links will be provided in the course website.

ASSIGNMENTS

Full details are available in the Assignments module of the course website. Due dates are provided on the course calendar. Students will submit their assignments as attachments to the relevant assignment module in the course website.

Book Trailer/Book Talk (SLO 2, 4)	= 30 points
Collection Development Proposal & Project (SLO 1, 4)	= 30 points
Book reviews (SLO 3, 4)	= 10 points
Module content/book discussions (15 modules x 2 points each) (SLO 1, 3, 4)	= 30 points
TOTAL	= 100 points

SUBMITTING ASSIGNMENTS

All assignments must be submitted as instructed on the BlazeVIEW course website using Word formats (.doc or .docx suffixes only) or other formats designated by the instructor. The university's Information Technology (IT) department provides step-by-step guides on how to use VSU's e-mail system and other resources. The IT Help Desk is at <http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/it/helpdesk/>. Their telephone hotline is 229-245- 4357. BlazeVIEW is powered by the Desire2Learn (D2L) Brightspace course learning system.

D2L provides 24/7 support 365 days a year. To contact D2L, go to <https://D2LHelp.view.usg.edu> or call the hotline at 855-772-0423.

LATE SUBMISSIONS, MISSED ASSIGNMENTS, & MAKE UP ASSIGNMENTS

Completely skipping an assignment is not acceptable in graduate school. To be eligible to receive an A in this course requires completing every assignment and submitting within the specified deadlines. All course work is due inside BlazeVIEW on the date and time indicated on the course calendar (based on

the BlazeVIEW clock). Technology problems are not an acceptable excuse for submitting work late unless BlazeVIEW is down at the time the work is due.

MLIS PROGRAM E-PORTFOLIO REQUIREMENT

An E-Portfolio is required for graduation by all students. Details may be found on the MLIS program website.

COURSE GRADES

Course grades will be awarded as follows:

A: 90%–100%

B: 80%–89%

C: 70%–79%

D: 60%–69%

F: Lower than 60%

No grade below a C will be credited toward a VSU graduate degree and students must receive a grade of B or better to earn credit in core courses and the required collection development elective.

An overall grade of zero can be assigned to an entire paper or project if the instructor determines that its contents, or parts of its contents, were completed by a second party or copied into a paper or project from a source without proper citing. Noncompliance with rules on appropriate use of resources will result in zero credit for those parts of the assignment affected. If you are unsure about the parameters of an assignment, ask for clarification.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

VSU requires that you attend class in the first week. You must complete the Introduce Yourself Discussion Board activity in order to not be dropped for this course by the deadline. All course activities will be conducted through BlazeVIEW. Course content is delivered asynchronously according to the course calendar. It is your responsibility to participate in all course activities and submit assignments on time. It is in your best interest to log into the course several times each week (daily is best) to check announcements, discussion board posts, and emails.

COMMUNICATION

Communication will be conducted through BlazeVIEW announcements, postings and replies in the Faculty Office discussion board, and/or BlazeVIEW email. Check each of these areas at least several times per week (daily is recommended) as you are responsible for knowing all information communicated through these channels.

VSU requires that all correspondence between the student and the instructor be conducted through official university channels. To that end, all email correspondence related to this course is to be sent using the email client built into the BlazeVIEW course website or via your VSU email. For other correspondence with any VSU faculty members or administrative offices, please use your VSU email account.

PROFESSIONALISM

The Department of Library and Information Studies expects you to pursue your academic endeavors and conduct yourself in a professional and ethical manner. All work submitted in the course must represent your own efforts. Cite sources and include reference information. You should communicate in a professional manner in both speech and writing and maintain a professional attitude, being respectful to others and their viewpoints. Exercise an awareness of the pervasiveness of the online environment and strive to maintain a professional online presence.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

You are responsible for knowing and abiding by the Academic Integrity Policy as set forth in the Student Code of Conduct (<https://www.valdosta.edu/administration/student-affairs/student-conduct-office/student-handbook.php>) and the COEHS Policy Statement of Plagiarism (<https://www.valdosta.edu/colleges/education/deans-office/policy-statement-of-plagiarism.php>). All students are expected to do their own work and to uphold a high standard of academic ethics. Consequences for acts of academic dishonesty are detailed in the COEHS Policy Statement of Plagiarism.

VSU's Academic Student Conduct Code states that "no student shall engage in plagiarism, which is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were the student's own." Content generated by an Artificial Intelligence third-party service or site (AI-generated content) without proper citation is another form of plagiarism. If you are unsure about whether something may be plagiarism or another form of academic dishonesty, please reach out to me as soon as possible.

For more information, visit Academic Honesty at VSU (<https://www.valdosta.edu/academics/academic-affairs/academic-honesty-at-vsu.php>).

STUDENT OPINION OF INSTRUCTION SURVEY

At the end of the term, all students will be expected to complete an online Student Opinion of Instruction survey (SOI) that will be available through SmartEvals. Students will receive an email notification through their VSU email address when the SOI is available (generally at least one week before the end of the term). SOI responses are anonymous to instructors/administrators, and they will be able to access results only after they have submitted final grades. Before final grade submission, instructors will not be able to see any responses, but they can see the percentage of students who have or have not completed their SOIs. While instructors will not be able to see student names, an automated system will send a reminder email to those who have yet to complete their SOIs. Students who withdraw or drop a course will also be sent invitations to complete the Dropped Course Survey. Complete information about the SOIs, including how to access the survey, is available on the SOI Procedures webpage (<https://www.valdosta.edu/academics/academic-affairs/sois/>).

NON-DISCRIMINATION AND TITLE IX STATEMENT

Valdosta State University (VSU) upholds all applicable laws and policies regarding discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex (including sexual harassment and pregnancy), sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national origin, religion, age, veteran status, political affiliation, or disability. The University prohibits specific forms of behavior that violate Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs and activities that receive federal funding. VSU considers sex discrimination in any form to be a serious offense. Title IX refers to all forms of sex discrimination committed against others, including but not limited to: sexual harassment, sexual assault, sexual misconduct, and sexual violence by other employees, students or third parties and gender inequity or unfair treatment based on an

individual's sex/gender. The designated Title IX Coordinator for VSU is Ms. Selenseia Holmes. To view the full policy or to report an incident visit: <https://www.valdosta.edu/administration/student-affairs/title-ix/>

ACCOMMODATION STATEMENT

Students with disabilities who are experiencing barriers in this course may contact the Access Office (<https://www.valdosta.edu/student/disability/>) for assistance in determining and implementing reasonable accommodations. The Access Office is located in University Center Room 4136 Entrance 5. The phone numbers are 229-245-2498 (V), 229-375-5871. For more information, please visit VSU's Access Office or email: access@valdosta.edu. To request reasonable accommodations for pregnancy and childbirth, contact Christina Kidd, Student Conduct Coordinator at chkidd@valdosta.edu. Please note, you will be required to provide documentation from an appropriately licensed medical professional indicating the requested accommodations are medically necessary.

Helpful Links

Technical Support (IT helpdesk)	https://www.valdosta.edu/administration/it/solutions/
Center for eLearning (support for BlazeVIEW)	https://www.valdosta.edu/academics/elearning/
Academic Support Center	https://www.valdosta.edu/asc/
Hope Connect (Mental Health Services)	https://www.valdosta.edu/administration/student-affairs/student-health/hope-connect-about.php