

VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY
MASTER OF LIBRARY & INFORMATION SCIENCE
MLIS 7999 Multicultural Youth Literature
Syllabus--Spring Semester 2006
Three Credit Hours

Instructor:

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Course Description

Multicultural books and related materials for use with students and library patrons from pre-kindergarten through grade 12. Evaluation and the use of literature to promote self-ident

Course Objectives

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

1. Identify and discuss several categories, authors and specific titles in multicultural youth literature.
2. Evaluate individual titles for authenticity, reading level, and interest level.
3. Discuss the use of multicultural literature to promote self-identity in youth.
4. Write a book review.

Course Prerequisite or Corequisite None.

Required Text

Available at VSU Bookstore

Norton, Donna E. *Multicultural Children's Literature: Through the Eyes of Many Children*. 2nd edition. Prentice-Hall, 2005. ISBN: 0131178067
2005 edition required.

Assignments

Discussion Posts	35%
Reading Log	35%
Book Review	30%

Due Dates Calendar

Assignments are due at 9 p.m.

RL = Reading Log

Thurs. Jan. 26	Meet the Class and post on Identity due Text: Chapter 1 Article: "Community, Identity, and Literature"
Thurs. Feb. 2	African American Literature: RL Text: Chapter 2
Thurs. Feb. 9	Nothing due. Whew!
Thurs. Feb. 16	Native American Literature: RL Text: Chapter 3 Discussion I available
Thurs. Feb. 23	Discussion Post I due
Thurs. March 2	Latino Literature: RL Text: Chapter 4
Thurs. March 2	5:00 p.m. Deadline to drop class without academic penalty
Thurs. March 9	Asian Literature: RL Text: Chapter 5 Discussion II available
Thurs. March 16	Spring Break! Nothing due!! Yahoo!!!
Thurs. March 23	Discussion Post II due
Thurs. March 30	Jewish Literature: RL Text: Chapter 6
Thurs. April 6	Middle Eastern Literature: RL Text: Chapter 7
Thurs. April 13	Rural Georgia: RL Article TBA

Discussion III available

Thurs. April 20 Discussion Post III due

Thurs. April 27 Nothing due. Whew!

Thurs. May 4 Book review due

Grading

General Grading Scale

A excellent work - among the best work seen at the graduate level

B satisfactory work - better than average work at the graduate level

C honest attempt - needs moderate to major revisions to be satisfactory

D perfunctory or missing work

Late work is dropped one letter grade, unless a mutually acceptable alternative deadline is negotiated with the instructor in advance.

Adherence to submission instructions is necessary before an assignment will be graded.

Final Grading Scale

A - always satisfactory, often excellent

B - mostly satisfactory, occasionally excellent

C - sometimes satisfactory, often needs revisions

D - rarely satisfactory, often perfunctory, late or missing

F - lacking even an attempt to learn or do, dishonesty, plagiarism

Technical Requirements

All assignments must be submitted using computer programs that are compatible with VSU supported products. For word processed documents, MS Word is the preferred format. WordPerfect 12 allows you to save your documents as Word documents. If you are using a lower version of WordPerfect or some other word processor, save your documents in Rich Text Format (rtf).

When reading instructions for your assignments, notice whether the instructions say

to paste your response into a message box or to use a file attachment. When the directions say to paste into a message box, you will want to compose your response in your word processing program first. This will help avoid the agony of being “timed out” and losing your work.

To view assigned online tutorials, you will need the Adobe Acrobat Reader, the Flash viewer, and the PowerPoint Viewer (if you have PowerPoint, you have the Viewer already). Free download URLs will be posted in the course site. The Vista version of WebCT works best with the Netscape browser - freely downloaded from <http://browser.netscape.com/ns8/>.

If you are a new Vista user, go to the Vista help pages at <http://www.valdosta.edu/vista/>. On the right margin are “Self Help” links. View the “Getting Started” tutorial first. Then return to the Vista page and login using your BlazeNet email ID and password.

The university’s Information Technology department provides step-by-step guides on how to use VSU’s email and other sources. The IT Help Desk is at <http://www.valdosta.edu/helpdesk/guides/> and their phone hot line is 229-245-4357.

Distance Learning Support

A VSU reference librarian, Ms. Shiloh Smith, is responsible for coordinating library services for off-campus VSU students. She may be reached by email at shismith@valdosta.edu or by phone at 229-245-3717. An online guide for distance education students is on the Odum Library Web site at <http://books.valdosta.edu/dist/dmain.html> This site includes valuable links to the reference desk and to the library’s reference chat service.

Academic Dishonesty

“Valdosta State University expects that graduate students will pursue their academic endeavors and conduct themselves in a professional and ethical manner. All work that a student presents to satisfy course requirements should represent his or her own efforts, including appropriate use and acknowledgement of external sources. Specific regulations related to student conduct and behavior are contained in the *Student Handbook*, *Student Code of Ethics*.”

Special Needs Statement

Valdosta State University is an equal opportunity educational institution. It is not the intent of our institution to discriminate against any applicant for admission or any student or employee of the institution based on the sex, race, religion, color, national origin or handicap of the individual. It is the intent of the institution to comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and subsequent executive orders as well as the Title IX section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Students requiring classroom accommodations or modifications because of a documented disability should discuss this need with the professor at the beginning of the semester. Students not registered with the Special Services Program should contact Special Services in Nevins Hall, Room 2164, 229-245-2498.

Attendance

This is a Web-delivered course, with no required face-to-face meetings and no required synchronous online times.