

Common Course Outline
EDTR 115/ENGL 115
Children's Literature
3 semester hours (3 classroom hours per week)
The Community College of Baltimore County

Description

This course provides a survey of Children's Literature from its beginning to the present day highlighting the cultural and historical influences and showing the evolution of the particular art form that melds story and picture. Children's Literature provides a comprehensive study of the genres--picture books, poetry, fiction, folklore, etc. for children at the Primary level (preschool and early childhood) through the Advanced level (upper elementary grades) with emphasis on selecting high quality and appropriate literature for children. Various presentation methods are explored with emphasis on child involvement. *NOTE: Same as ENGL 115. Credit earned for one only.*

Prerequisites: ENGL 052 or ESOL 052 or LVE 2 and RDNG 052 or LVR 2

Overall Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Trace the broad outline of the historical, cultural, and artistic development of the literature
2. Identify major writers, artists, themes, and literary types
3. Identify characteristics of books that are age appropriate
4. Identify characteristics of books which enhance child development, including social, language and literacy development and cognitive growth
5. Select and use books and poetry which are appropriate for early and middle childhood
6. Recognize differences in artistic contributions and writing styles
7. Analyze literary elements, such as plot, story, setting, characterization, style, theme, tone, point of view
8. Analyze the impact of technology on contemporary children's literature
9. Recognize different genres of literature: myth, epic, short story, realistic fantasy, biography, poetry, story book, and picture book and identify times and audiences for sharing them
10. Explain how bibliotherapy can help solve the problems of young children
11. State the value of traditional literature to everyday lessons
12. Select children's books that are developmentally-appropriate, well-written, appropriately illustrated, free of stereotypes, and that promote cultural sensitivity and value diversity
13. Read and present literature to children
14. Apply techniques, individual and collaborative, for introducing books or stories to children and for discussing them

Major Topics

Definition of children's literature
Choosing books
Characteristics of literature for each age group
Elements of fiction
Visual elements
Types of poetry
Use of poetry in the classroom
Types of picture books
Types of traditional literature
Fantasy and folktales
Realistic fiction
Historical fiction
Biography and informational books
Multicultural literature, including international literature and
literature from contemporary parallel cultures
Using literature in curriculum
Teaching strategies
Major writers
Major illustrators

Course Requirements

Requirements will be determined by the individual faculty member but may include some of the following:

Tests and quizzes
Participation activities
An annotated bibliography of children's books
A sample lesson plan
Critiques of on-line children's literature sources
Written assignments discussing literary genres
Oral presentations based on literary genres
Comprehensive file (electronic or hard copy) of
selected quality children's books in all genres