

Course Outline/Syllabus - LIBR 2395: Children's Services

Updated: Spring 2025

Course Format: Online via Brightspace

Credits: 3

Transfer credit: For information, visit bctransferguide.ca

Prerequisites and corequisites: None

Instructor: Francesca de Freitas, fdefreitas@langara.ca

Office Hours: By appointment

Description

This course aims to provide you with basic training and familiarity with the literature, programs, and services for children and their families in public libraries. We look at the fundamentals of providing effective, responsive library services, collections, and programs to this age group.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, you will be able to:

- Understand child development as it applies to library services for children 0 to 12 years old.
- Evaluate and recommend children's library material to a range of users based on their needs and interests.
- Prepare and present storytime programs for children and their caregivers.
- Prepare both print and electronic library material guides for children and caregivers.
- Participate in program, collection and service development and delivery in public libraries serving children and families.

Textbook and Course Materials

You will access reading, video, and audio material in the weekly course modules available in Brightspace.

There is a textbook:

Ghoting, Saroj Nadkarni, and Pamela Martin-Diaz. *Storytimes for Everyone!: Developing Young Children's Language and Literacy*. ALA Editions, 2013.

You can purchase this textbook at the Langara Bookshop:

https://mycampusstore.langara.bc.ca/buy_courselisting.asp?selTerm=3|8

Topics Covered

This course covers the following topics:

- Introduction to library services for children contemporary children's libraries
- Introduction to child development birth to age 12
- Early literacy fundamentals, ages 0-5
- Storytime program planning, ages 0-5
- Storytime program elements
- School-age program planning, ages 6-12
- Introduction to children's literature
- Collection development, censorship, and challenges in children's libraries
- Reference & readers' advisory across genres and formats in children's Libraries
- Early literacy in the digital age, ages 0-5
- Media for children, age 6-12
- Diversity, inclusion and social justice issues in children's literature and children's library services, collections and programs
- Challenges and opportunities in children's library services

Assessments and Weighting

This course has the following graded activities:

- A1: Storytime Observations, 10% of your final grade
- A2: Early Literacy Storytime, 20% of your final grade
- A3: Storytime Prop, 15% of your final grade
- A4: Show off a Book, 15% of your final grade
- A5: Annotated Non-Fiction Lists (group assignment), 15% of your final grade
- A6: Children's Annotated Fiction List, 15% of your final grade
- Participation, 10% of your final grade

Grading System

- A+ is 96-100%
- A is 91-95%
- is 88-90%
- B+ is 84-87%
- B is 80-83%
- B- is 77-79%
- C+ is 71-76%
- C is 65-70%
- is 60-64%
- D is 50-59%
- F is below 50%

You must achieve a C to pass the course.

Departmental/Course Policies

You are expected to:

- Read all required course module materials and readings.

- Participate in the course participation activities.
- Make every effort to complete assignments on time and with precision.
- Produce written work free of grammatical and spelling errors.
- Demonstrate critical engagement with the course content.
- Demonstrate you have met all course learning objectives through activities, assignments, or participation.

Langara College Policies

As a student at Langara, you are responsible for familiarizing yourself and complying with the following policies:

- E1003 - [Student Code of Conduct](#)
- F1004 - [Code of Academic Integrity](#)
- E2008 - [Academic Standing](#)
- E2006 - [Appeal of Final Grade](#)
- F1002 - [Concerns about Instruction](#)
- E2011 - [Withdrawal from Courses](#)

Mental Health

Success in this course depends heavily on your personal health and wellbeing.

- Recognize that stress is an expected part of the college experience and that it is often compounded by unexpected setbacks or life changes outside the classroom.
- Reframe challenges as being unavoidable in your journey to success.
- Reflect on your role in taking care of yourself throughout the term, before the demands of coursework and assignments reach their peak.

- Reach out to me, or to any of Langara's support services, about any difficulty you may have that you feel you cannot handle by yourself. Don't let it get to the point where you are completely overwhelmed.

Personal Information

This course may use an electronic (online) instructional resource that is located outside of Canada for mandatory graded class work. You may be required to enter personal information, such as your name and email address, to log in to this resource. This means that your personal information could be stored on servers located outside of Canada and may be accessed by U.S. authorities, subject to federal laws.

Where possible, you may log in with an email pseudonym as long as you provide the pseudonym to me so I can identify you when reviewing your class work.