

Course Outline/Syllabus

LIBR 2516: Special Topics: Readers' Advisory

Revised for Spring 2022

Course Format: Online

Credits: 3

Transfer Credit: For information, visit bctransferguide.ca

Course Description, Prerequisites, and Corequisites:

This course acquaints students with reading and media interests of adults in preparation for readers' advisory (RA) work in these areas. Issues related to readers' advisory service in public and other library settings are covered, as well as the basic tenets of readers' advisory. Students will learn how to interview readers to determine their reading interests, and will explore RA tools that are available for making reading and viewing recommendations.

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

Upon completing the course, students will be able to:

1. practice acceptance of and support for the varied reading interests of adults
2. interview a reader to determine their reading/viewing/listening interests
3. make recommendations for pleasure reading/viewing/listening in a number of genres/subject areas
4. create a genre/theme guide
5. design a readers' advisory program
6. create a book trailer or book talk on a specific title
7. concisely summarize a book's appeal factors in writing and orally
8. demonstrate understanding of the philosophy behind readers' advisory

Methodology

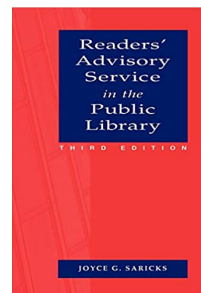
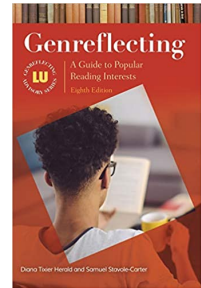
- Unmarked activities, classroom discussions, participation and attendance: students will be expected to interact with each other and the instructor in course discussions and complete activities weekly.
- Assignments: Several graded assignments will be assigned throughout the term.

Textbooks and Course Materials:

Required texts are available through the Langara bookstore and/or Langara library as e-books that you can use online. Note that for all of the texts listed below, you can get them used on sites such as Abe Books (<https://www.abebooks.com/>) or Half Price Books (<https://hpb.com/books/book/1023.canada>). (I have used Abe Books with good success, but have never tried the other, just FYI.) There is no need to spend full price if you wish to own these titles yourself.

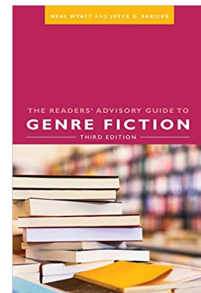
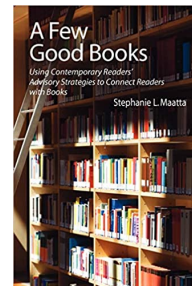
Required:

- Herald, D. T. & Stavole-Carter, S. (2019). *Genreflecting: A guide to popular reading interests* (8th edition). Santa Barbara, CA: Libraries Unlimited.
 - NB: This text is available through the Langara library as a print book. Call number: PS 374 P63 R67 2019
 - I will be making certain chapters available on Brightspace for those who cannot purchase it or go to Langara to use it.
- Selected chapters from Saricks, J. G. (2005). *Readers' advisory service in the public library* (3rd ed). Chicago: American Library Association.
 - NB: This book is available as an ebook through the Langara library <https://twist.langara.ca/record=b1876371~S1>. It's an excellent resource if you feel inclined to purchase it, but you should be able to use it online if you prefer.
- Additional readings, viewings and audio materials to be assigned in Brightspace in the weekly course modules.



Recommended:

- Any books by Nancy Pearl (eg. Booklust, Booklust To Go, etc.)
- Wyatt, N. & Saricks, J. (2019). *The readers' advisory guide to genre fiction*. Chicago: ALA Editions. Available at Langara Library as an e-book: <https://twist.langara.ca/record=b1876372~S1>
- Maatta, S. L. (2010). *A few good books: Using contemporary readers' advisory strategies to connect readers with books*. New York: Neal Schuman.



- Other recommended readings, viewings or audio materials will be posted to Brightspace.

Assessments and Weighting:

Participation: RA Triad Discussion Board Participation	15%
Midterm quiz	15%
Assignment 1: Genre/Theme Guide	20%
Assignment 2: Program Proposal	20%
Assignment 3: Book Talk or Book Trailer	20%
Assignment 4: Reading Diary	10%
Total	100%

Grading and Expectations:

All unmarked activities, assignments and projects **must be completed** and submitted in order to successfully complete the course.

- In order to receive participation credit for unmarked activities, you **must** submit the activity by the due date, unless previous arrangements are made with the instructor.
- All assignments and projects must be submitted on the due date, unless previous arrangements are made with the instructor, or **marks will be deducted**.

Library Technician Grading Scheme

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

Detailed Course Schedule: Please see Course Schedule within Brightspace.

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 Conduct](#)

[E2008 - Academic Standing - Academic Probation and Academic Suspension](#)

[E2006 - Appeal of Final Grade](#)

[F1002 - Concerns about Instruction](#)

[E2011 - Withdrawal from Courses](#)

Departmental/Course Policies:

All Library and Information Technology program students must achieve a “C” in this course in order to pass the course and apply it to the diploma.