Syllabus for LME 318, Spring 2009: Children's Literature

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LME 318  
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Office hours: T/Th 10am to 1pm  
W Electronic Office Hours 7pm to 10pm

Course Description and Textbook Information from the WKU Undergraduate Catalog: Prerequisites: First three English courses or instructor approval. An introduction to picture books, traditional literature, poetry, fiction, biography, informational books, and the development of literature programs in the elementary and middle school.


· Additional Readings and visits to websites as indicated below.

Statement on Plagiarism and Original Work for This Class

All assignments for this class must be your original work, not "borrowed" from other sources. That is known as plagiarism. If you use an article, a book, a video, or any other resource, it must be cited on your paper, using appropriate APA Style (http://www.cruk.umn.edu/library/links/apa5th.htm) on a Works Cited page at the end of your paper. The Western Kentucky University Handbook of University Life describes plagiarism as follows:

"To represent written work taken from another source as one's own is plagiarism. One must give any author credit for source material borrowed from him. To lift content directly from a source without giving credit is a flagrant act. To present a borrowed passage without reference to the source after having changed a few words is also plagiarism."

In addition, for the purposes of this course, to lift material verbatim or to paraphrase from a source and then to cite that source is unacceptable. Plagiarism will result in a score of zero (0) for that work.

· Good grammar and spelling are expected for all assignments. Please take a look at these websites for a refresher course.

~Guide to Grammar and Writing: (http://ctc.commnet.edu/grammar/textonly.htm) From Capital Community College, Hartford, CT
~Grammar Resources from University of Wisconsin-Stout Libraries. (http://www.uwstout.edu/lib/subjects/english.htm#grammar)
~APA handbook. All work must be in APA format.
LME 318: Children's Literature Course Requirements & Assignments

Assignment #1: Due by February 8. Student Personal Information Sheet: Find this Word file under Assignments. This assignment is to be printed out, filled out completely, and postal mailed to the instructor at the address given. (10 points)

Assignment #2: Discussion Prompts: Due by April 26.

Students will refer to the textbook and/or other appropriate references when responding to the discussion topics. Discussion Board Forum Topics are posted in the discussion area. To access the Discussion Board, click on the Communication/Discussion Board for this class.

- Students are expected to respond to each topic. Postings MUST be original, well-thought out, and substantive. You MUST demonstrate that you have read the required material, reflected upon it, and can add to the discussion intelligently. A substantial part of your grade is based on participation in the online Discussion Board Forum topics. Weekly participation is required. You will NOT be permitted to add a bunch of comments as we get near the end of the semester, if you have not participated early on. Discussion Board Topics will be archived after three weeks. This means that you will be able to re-read, but not add to the existing forum. (30 points)

Assignment #3: Due by February 15. Interview of Library Media Specialist: Each student must interview a school media librarian. (10 points)

~Interviews will be conducted in person.
~Students should plan to ask 6-8 pertinent questions about the librarian's daily work, organization of the library, specific library services performed, etc.
~Please avoid personal questions, except, perhaps, about the librarian's educational background.
~Paper should be 3-4 pages long in question and answer format. Good grammar, spelling, typing, etc. count!
~Paper should be labeled with student name, course information, date, assignment label (Librarian Interview), name of the librarian and the name of the library.
~Paper should consist of an introductory paragraph, the questions/answer section, and a concluding paragraph that summarizes what insights have been learned about the role of a library media specialist.
~This assignment will help you gain valuable insight into the roles library media specialists and teachers share in helping to encourage students of all ages to develop a love of reading.
Assignment #4: Due by March 15. Bookstore visit and reflection paper. A visit to one of several local bookstores and a reflection paper will be required. Further information will be provided by the instructor at the start of class. (10 points)

Assignment #5: Quiz 1 will be available on March 29.
Quiz 2 will be available on May 1.

Two quizzes worth 20 points each will be given covering the following chapters:
- Quiz 1 Understanding Literature and the Child Reader Chapters 1-4
- Quiz 1 Exploring Genres of Children’s Literature Part 1 Chapters 5-8
- Quiz 2 Exploring Genres of Children’s Literature Part 2 Chapters 9-11
- Quiz 2 Creating the Literature Based Classroom Chapters 12-14

Quizzes consist of objective style questions. They are not timed and you can use your textbook and notes. Quizzes may be done at any time and after you read the assigned chapters.

Assignment #6: Reading Journal: 1. Due February 22, Reading Journal-Part 1 (25 points) (15 reviews over Traditional Literature (3), Picture Books (10), and Poetry (2); and, Reading Journal 2: Due March 22, Reading Journal-Part 2 (25 points) (15 reviews over Realistic Fiction (5), Historical Fiction (2), Modern Fantasy & Science Fiction (3), and Informational Books & Biography (5).

A reading journal must be kept by each student. The body for each entry should be double spaced. Journals will cover a personal and critical discussion of 30 books (5 books must be from the Caldecott Award winners and 5 from the Newbery Award winners (see text, Appendix A in the textbook or website listed below).

For the most current lists check the websites listed below.
Newbery Medal winners and honors:
thttp://www.ala.org/ala/alsc/awardsscholarships/literaryawds/newberyaward/newsnewberyaward.htm
Caldecott Medal winners and honors:
thttp://www.ala.org/ala/alsc/awardsscholarships/literaryawds/caldecottaward/caldecottaward.htm

The required numbers for each category are:
Reading Journal-Part 1
- Traditional literature - 3
- Picture books -10
- Poetry - 2
Reading Journal-Part 2
Realistic fiction - 5
Historical fiction-2
Modern fantasy/science fiction 3
Informational/Biography - 5

Guidelines for Reading Journal

a. Do not use more than two books by the same author/illustrator.

b. Journal entries should be neatly typed using consistent spacing and organization.

c. **Each entry should be one (1) - two (2) pages in length.** Please use paragraph indentations in the body of the entry. A standard type face like Times New Roman must be used with a 12 point font.

d. Each journal entry should begin with a complete bibliographic citation. Follow the format used on the reading list. Citations must be in the APA format.

e. Each journal entry should be labeled with student’s name, genre being reviewed with number of entry, and must indicate the date it or each portion of it was written.

For example, Jane Smith
Traditional Literature 1 of 3
Jan. 22, 2008

Then the next entry would be labeled Jane Smith
Traditional Literature 2 of 3
Jan. 23, 2008

The following components should be included for each entry:

2. The major themes should be identified with criticism of the art/illustrations as well as the story. (See the appropriate chapters in the textbook evaluating each genre.) Think about the genre you are reacting to and why a recommended title is included.
3. The reader's personal reaction to the book should be discussed. The following questions should be used as a guide: (1). What did you like or dislike about the book? (Be honest. Choose your words carefully to make your point clear. Avoid cliches like "nice," "cute," "good," etc. (2). What in your life may have influenced your reaction or response to this book? (For example, a childhood memory of a grandparent, pet, event, day, etc. Did the time of day, season of the year, school pressures, day of the week, etc. have any effect on your reaction?) (3). How would you compare this book to another book or books?
4. What new thing (information or insight) did you learn about children's literature in reading this book?
5. How could the book be used in the classroom?
The reading journal is written in COMPLETE SENTENCES! USE CORRECT GRAMMAR AND SPELLING! Journals will be evaluated on criteria for good writing.

BRIEF SAMPLE OF A JOURNAL PAGE

__________________________________________________
Joan Smith
Picture books 3-10
August 1, 2008


This is a magical story about a little boy who believes.... **continue analyzing the components mentioned above.**

**Assignment #7: Due by 5pm, May 3** Annotated Thematic Bibliography: (Electronic Portfolio Critical Performance): This is the critical performance task for this course and is a required entry in the electronic portfolio for teacher education majors. **THIS ASSIGNMENT MUST BE COMPLETED BEFORE A STUDENT CAN PASS THE COURSE.** Please go to the electronic portfolio website, then on CEBS Electronic Portfolio System and refer to the critical performance/scoring rubric as you complete this assignment. (50 points)

An annotated bibliography for a specific grade level must be submitted. Following the guidelines, books will be selected from at least three children's literature genres to teach a specific curriculum subject (such as science) using a theme (such as water).

The theme must be divided into at least three subdivisions, such as WATER: oceans and rivers, conservation, whales and marine animals, weather, transportation, etc.).

Other examples include subjects like diversity (holidays, dress, food), shapes (squares, circles, triangles), size (large, small, long, short), weather (rain, cloudy, sunny), seasons (fall, winter, spring, summer), signs of safety (stop, danger, direction), my community (my house, my school, my stores), animals (land, sea, air) transportation (trains, planes, and automobiles), etc.

**Minimum requirements for the Annotated Bibliography:** 1.) Three subdivisions of topic. 2.) Minimum of 30 entries. 3.) A selection/review aid must be referenced for five entries. Three different aids must be used. (Refer to separate list of Reviewing Sources for Children's Literature.) 4.) Cover sheet or title page indicating assignment, theme, name, date, course information, and grade level. 5.) A one- two page narrative introduction or overview describing the purpose of the bibliography, the selection of materials, the arrangement of entries, etc. 6.) Include a section called Unit Lesson Plan Activities that list 4-6 instructional statements to be accomplished by the students by participating in the thematic unit.
LME 318 Assignments and Point Values

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<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tr>
<td>Two Quizzes (20 pts each)</td>
<td>40 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussion Prompts</td>
<td>30 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reading Journals (15 titles in each journal, 25 pts. each)</td>
<td>50 points</td>
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<td>Book Store Exercise</td>
<td>10 points</td>
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<td>Librarian Interview</td>
<td>10 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annotated Thematic Bibliography (30 titles)</td>
<td><strong>50 points</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Upload of critical performance (Annotated Thematic Bibliography) to EPS</td>
<td>10 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Information Form (mailed to me week one)</td>
<td>10 points</td>
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POINTS WILL BE DEDUCTED FOR LATE ASSIGNMENTS!!!!

Grade Categories

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90-100%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>80-89.99%</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>70-79.99%</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>60-69.99%</td>
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REQUIREMENTS FOR SUBMITTING ASSIGNMENTS

1) Documents should be typed in Microsoft Word. All document files must be saved as .rtf (Rich Text Format) files, NOT .doc files, which is the default saving mode for MS Word. If you use Microsoft WORKS, you must Save As a Microsoft Word .rtf file. This should save your work so it can be read from different versions of MS Word. If you use WordPerfect or any other type of word processing software, **you MUST save the files as .rtf (Rich Text Format) files**, so that the instructor can open and read your assignments on their computers. Points will be counted off if assignments are NOT submitted in the proper format.
2) When naming your files, save using the following format. For example, saving and naming your annotated bibliography:

Smith, LisaLME 318Fall08AnnotatedBibliographyPets.rtf

3) Submit your assignments to the instructor using the Blackboard assignment area. If you have any questions, email the instructor.