

SCHOOL OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION STUDIES
University of Alberta

LIS 401

SURVEY OF CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

*3 (Either Term, 3-0-0)

Instructor: A. Altmann

Calendar

Description: A survey of literature for children from infancy through the elementary school years with an emphasis on books currently read by children. Children's reading needs and interests, and issues and trends will be examined.

Objectives: To develop an appreciation of children's literature.

To develop a critical approach to children's literature, taking into consideration the current trends and issues in the field.

To develop familiarity with the body of literature available to children.

Content: General introduction to the field.

The criteria for the evaluation of children's literature and their application in selection.

Reading needs and interests of children.

The historical development of the field.

The literature: picture books; traditional literature; poetry; realistic fiction; historical fiction; fantasy; science fiction.

Current trends, issues, and problems.

Methods: Lectures, class discussions, films. Extensive reading and examination of works of children's literature are necessary.

Course

Relationships: None. This course is not open to M.L.I.S. students.

Assignments:

A paper written on two illustrated versions of a fairy tale.	30%
A written report on a book for older children.	25%
A final exam.	35%
Class contribution.	10%

(Essays submitted late normally will be penalized by 4% for the first day and 2% for each succeeding day to a maximum penalty of 20%.)

Required

Readings: Children's books as assigned