Instructor: Dr. Vickey M. Giles
Telephone: 281-328-5262 (home); 281-727-2045 (office)
Office Hours: By appointment before or after class
Email: vgiles@uh.edu
        vgiles@sheldon.k12.tx.us
Semester: Spring, 2007--Thursday, 5:00-8:00 P.M.

**Required book:** Abrahamson, Richard F. *Survey of Children’s Literature Packet for ELED 3320.* (Available at UH Copy Center)


**Catalogue Description:** Reading and evaluation of books, guidance of reading interests, and teaching literature in grades PreK-8.

**Introduction/Objectives:** As the above description suggests, this is a course designed to introduce pre-service educators to the wide world of literature for children. In this course, students read children’s books and evaluate them based on criteria for excellence in each genre from picture storybooks to nonfiction. In addition, students study the reading interests of young people and how these interests change as children move through the elementary and middle school years. Finally, students examine some of the most effective ways to teach and to share children’s literature.
**Standards:** This course is aligned with the standards of the Association for Childhood Education International (ACEI). Specifically, this Survey of Children’s Literature addresses aspects of Standard 2.1 English language arts: “Candidates are familiar with, able to use, and recommend to students many reading materials based on different types, including stories, poems, biography, non-fiction, many categories of literature written for children....”

In addition, this course is aligned with the standards of the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE). Specifically, this Survey of Children’s Literature addresses Standard 3.5.2: “Works from a wide variety of genres and cultures, works by female authors, and works by authors of color.” Standard 3.5.3 is the core of this course: “Numerous works specifically written for children and younger adolescents.”

**Conceptual Framework:** “Collaboration for Learning and Leading” is the theme for the College of Education’s framework. This course focuses on the “learning” aspect of the conceptual framework. Through systematic, scholarly study of literature for children, the above objectives will be met.

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**EVALUATION:**

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<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Maximum Points Possible</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Three short papers or similar assignments on</td>
<td>21 (7 points each)</td>
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<td>selected units covered--options available in packet.</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Length expected--one single-spaced, typed page.)</td>
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<td>2. Core Book Exam</td>
<td>20</td>
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<td>3. Mid-Semester Exam</td>
<td>25</td>
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<td>4. Second Exam</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Regular Class Attendance</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
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Based on a 100 point scale, grades will be assigned on the following basis: A 94-100, A- 90-93, B+ 87-89, B 84-86, B- 80-83, C+ 77-79, C 74-76, C- 70-73, D+ 67-69, D 64-66, D- 60-63, F 59 or lower.
Tentative Calendar

January 18    Overview—evaluation criteria
January 25    Evaluation criteria, matching schemes, Picture books
February 1    Picture Books
February 8    Folk literature
February 15   Fantasy
   Paper #1 is due—Picture books
February 22   Realistic Fiction
March 1       Mid-Semester Exam
March 8       Poetry
March 22      Informational Books/Awards and Prizes
   Paper #2 is due—Realistic Fiction
March 29      Historical Fiction/Biography/Classics
April 5       History of Children’s Literature
   Paper #3 is due—Poetry
April 12      Core Book Exam
April 19      Television/Reading Motivation
April 26      Second Exam

PLEASE NOTE: All assignments must be typed. Papers must not be photocopied, and NO late papers will be accepted. The due dates and time for the assignments will be 5 P.M.: Picture Books 2/15; Realistic Fiction 3/22; and Poetry 4/5. An electronic copy of your paper must also be e-mailed to turnitin.com on the same due date. In this course the plagiarism prevention system Turnitin.com will be used. All exams will be administered on the designated days. Only extreme emergencies documented by official proof, such as a physician’s excuse stating the nature of the emergency, will be considered as a legitimate basis for scheduling a make-up exam. After three unexcused absences you will be dropped from the course.

Student Accommodations Under the Americans with Disabilities Act
When possible, and in accordance with 504/ADA guidelines, we will attempt to provide reasonable academic accommodations to students who request and require them. Please call ext. 3-5400 for more assistance.

Academic Dishonesty
The University of Houston defines academic dishonesty as “Employing a method or technique or engaging in conduct in an academic endeavor that the student knows or should know is not permitted by the university or a course instructor to fulfill academic requirements.” Students are expected to do original work, including class assignments, etc. Penalties include failure of the entire assignment and referral to the department chair for consideration of additional action.
*Please note the following important University of Houston dates:

- **January 29, 2007** – Official Reporting Day, last day to drop a course without hours counting towards the Enrollment Cap for Texas Residents
- **February 9, 2007** – Last day to file university application for graduation
- **February 13, 2007** – Last day to drop a course or withdraw without receiving a grade.
- **March 12-17, 2007** - Spring Break
- **April 3, 2007** – Last day to drop a course or withdraw
- **April 30, 2007** - Last day of classes
- **May 1, 2007** - Make up day for all classes canceled by the university.
REQUIRED CORE READING LIST #6  
Dr. Richard F. Abrahamson  
ELED 3320--Literature for Children  
University of Houston

The following titles represent some of the finest and/or most popular books Children’s Literature has to offer. You will read each of these books this semester in order to help you become more familiar with books you will encounter while working with children. A written exam over the content of the books will be given toward the end of the semester.

You do not need to purchase the books; however, most are available in paperback editions, and they will form a solid base for building, or continuing to build, your own collection of juvenile books. Enjoy!