Children’s literature is a course designed for students interested in bringing children and books together. It is especially for students with English or Education majors, for pre-school or elementary school teachers, for parents, for those working with children in day-care centers, for librarians, and for parents and grandparents. The course would also be beneficial for those exploring the field of writing and illustrating children’s books.

Students will identify children’s needs and interests, learn the criteria for choosing books for children, and demonstrate the means by which children and books can be brought together. Students will read, examine, and critique a variety of children’s literature selected by author, genre, and historical time period.
METHOD OF INSTRUCTION: A variety of instructional methods may be used depending on content area. These include but are not limited to: lecture, multimedia, cooperative/collaborative learning, labs and demonstrations, projects and presentations, speeches, debates, and panels, conferencing, performances, and learning experiences outside the classroom. Methodology will be selected to best meet student needs.

COURSE OUTLINE:

I. Children and books today
   A. Social influences
   B. Child development

II. Guiding Children’s Book Selection
    A. Literary qualities
    B. Authors and illustrators
    C. Libraries

III. History of children’s books
     A. History of books and printing
     B. Early children’s literature
     C. Current children’s literature

IV. Artists and children’s books
    A. Criteria for judging illustrations
    B. Application of criteria to children’s book

V. Types of children’s literature
   A. Different genres
   B. Awards

VI. Introducing children to literature and encouraging response
    A. Techniques for introduction and response
    B. Application of the techniques to selected literature

VII. Censorship in children’s literature
     A. Reasons why books are censored
     B. Impact of censorship
     C. Dealing with censorship

EXPECTED LEARNER OUTCOMES:

   A. The learner will be able to identify children’s needs and interests in respect to literature.
   B. The learner will be able to relate the history of children’s literature to its present form.
   C. The learner will be able to recognize the range of books for children.
   D. The learner will be able to identify the different types of children’s literature.
E. The learner will be able to list criteria for judging the various types of children’s books.
F. The learner will be able to recognize significant authors/illustrators and their works.
G. The learner will be able to identify factors which make authors and/or their work significant.
H. The learner will be able to identify and demonstrate the techniques for bringing children and books together.
I. The learner will be able to identify issues of realism, social trends, and censorship in children’s literature.
J. The learner will be able to evaluate sample books for use by children based on the impact of realism, social trends, and censorship.

COURSE COMPETENCIES:

The learner will be able to identify children’s needs and interests in respect to literature.
1. The learner will recognize the social impact on children’s literature.

The learner will be able to relate the history of children’s literature to its present form.
2. The learner will identify current trends and barriers in children’s literature.

The learner will be able to recognize the range of books for children.
3. The learner will identify goals for adults in encouraging reading.
4. The learner will outline a hierarchy of children’s needs.
5. The learner will paraphrase theories of child development.

The learner will be able to identify the different types of children’s literature.
6. The learner will define setting, point(s) of view, characterization, plot, theme, and style as they apply to children’s literature.

The learner will be able to list criteria for judging the various types of children’s books.
7. The learner will identify literary qualities within selected works.

The learner will be able to recognize significant authors/illustrators and their works.
8. The learner will apply library research skills to selected children’s authors and illustrators.
9. The learner will identify resources in a library which include children’s authors and illustrators.
10. The learner will analyze a famous children’s author or illustrator.
11. The learner will examine layout and selection of a local children’s library.
12. The learner will critique a library in terms of accessibility and acquisitions of children’s literature.

The learner will be able to identify factors which make authors and/or their work significant.
13. The learner will relate history of printing and books to modern children’s literature.
14. The learner will recognize the earliest forms of children’s books including chapbooks, hornbooks, and battledores.
15. The learner will identify milestones in the development of children’s literature.
16. The learner will read, summarize and evaluate selected works from the different time periods.
17. The learner will analyze use of color, line, shape, texture, arrangement, and typsetting as used by children’s illustrators.
18. The learner will identify artistic mediums such as oil/acrylics, pen and ink, watercolor, and collage.
19. The learner will examine and evaluate works by various illustrators.
20. The learner will identify significant illustrators of children’s literature.

**The learner will be able to identify and demonstrate the techniques for bringing children and books together.**
21. The learner will define the types of children’s literature.
22. The learner will select, read, summarize, and evaluate works within each type.
23. The learner will identify major children’s books awards.
24. The learner will distinguish between the requirements for children’s book awards.
25. The learner will define and describe techniques for involving children.
26. The learner will demonstrate one involvement technique in the classroom.
27. The learner will use one involvement technique with children and report to the class.

**The learner will be able to identify issues of realism, social trends, and censorship in children’s literature.**
28. The learner will explain reasons why books are censored.
29. The learner will assess the impact of censorship on children’s literature and children.
30. The learner will list some commonly censored books and their content.

**The learner will be able to evaluate sample books for use by children based on the impact of realism, social trends, and censorship.**
31. The learner will select, read, summarize and evaluate selected censored books.
32. The learner will predict potential censorship problems with children’s books.
33. The learner will prepare policy guidelines for censorship.
34. The learner will gather resources for consultation in case of challenge.

**ASSESSMENT OF LEARNER OUTCOMES:**
Student progress is evaluated by means that include, but are not limited to, exams, written assignments, and class participation.

**SPECIAL NOTES:**
Material included is intended to provide an outline of the course and rules that the instructor will adhere to in evaluating the student’s progress. However, this syllabus is not intended to be a legal contract. Questions regarding the syllabus are welcome any time.
Kansas City Kansas Community College is committed to an appreciation of diversity with respect for the differences among the diverse groups comprising our students, faculty, and staff that is free of bigotry and discrimination. Kansas City Kansas Community College is committed to providing a multicultural education and environment that reflects and respects diversity and that seeks to increase understanding.

Kansas City Kansas Community College offers equal educational opportunity to all students as well as serving as an equal opportunity employer for all personnel. Various laws, including Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, require the college’s policy on non-discrimination be administered without regard to race, color, age, sex, religion, national origin, physical handicap, or veteran status and that such policy be made known.

Kansas City Kansas Community College complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you need accommodations due to a documented disability, please contact the Director of the Academic Resource Center, in Rm. 3354 or call at: 288-7670.