Description: Contemporary Children's Literature

Subject Cat-Nbr Class Term Mode Units Campus
EDU 8413 20769 1, 2003 EXT 1.00 TW MBA

Academic Group: FOEDU
Academic Org: FOE002
HECS Band: 1
ASCED Code: 070303

STAFFING
Examiner: Mary Ryan
Moderator: Susan Morgan

RATIONALE
A study of contemporary children's literature offers a view of the influences and factors which effect modern writing for children. Such a study can assist in appreciating how literature can be used as a preparation for life.

SYNOPSIS
A study will be made of children's literature written since World War II, including that originating in the U.S. and U.K., with close reference to Australian children's literature since 1980. Current themes and issues will be explored to trace how societal pressures have impacted on children's books.

OBJECTIVES
On completion of this course students will be able to demonstrate:

- knowledge of the development of the science fiction genre in UK and US children's literature since 1945;
- ability to compare trends in UK and US children's literature with Australian children's literature;
- capacity to identify the social factors which influenced the development of children's literature since 1980;
- skills to investigate issues affecting children's literature since 1980;
- understandings about the difference and similarities in the genres of fantasy, science fiction and speculative fiction.
TOPICS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Developments in US, UK &amp; Australian children's literature</td>
<td>5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Science fiction/Fantasy in Aust. children's literature since 1980</td>
<td>25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Social factors influencing Aust. children's literature</td>
<td>25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Issues in Aust. children's literature since 1980</td>
<td>25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Distinguish between the genres of fantasy, science fiction and speculative fiction</td>
<td>20.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TEXT and MATERIALS required to be PURCHASED or ACCESSED:

Books can be ordered by fax or telephone. For costs and further details use the 'Book Search' facility at http://bookshop.usq.edu.au by entering the author or title of the text.

(Only available through the USQ Bookshop.)

REFERENCE MATERIALS

Reference materials are materials that, if accessed by students, may improve their knowledge and understanding of the material in the course and enrich their learning experience.

Australian Journal of Language and Literacy (formerly Aust. Journal of Reading),
Signal,
Papers: Explorations into Children's Literature,
Children's Literature in Education, (H to 98, online 1997 +)
Magpies, (H to 2000 / online 2001 +)
Reading Time,
Literature Base,
Orana,


Jacobs, J.S. & Tunnell, M.O 1996, Chapter 7 & 8, Children's Literature, Briefly, Merrill, New Jersey.


**STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assessment</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directed Study</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ASSESSMENT DETAILS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Marks Out of</th>
<th>Wtg(%)</th>
<th>Required</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SPECULATIVE FICTION</td>
<td>50.00</td>
<td>50.00</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>02 May 2003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMPARISON OF AUTHORS &amp; NOVELS</td>
<td>50.00</td>
<td>50.00</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>13 Jun 2003</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**OTHER REQUIREMENTS**

1. When there is more than one marker for a single item of assessment, the distribution patterns and means for the different markers will be compared and marks adjusted if necessary.
2. Marking criteria are provided in course material as mark sheets/guides or as part of assignment specifications.
3. Summative assessment items will be given a numerical score.
4. Course Grades will be calculated by aggregating the weighted result or numerical score for each summative assessment item. Any ungraded assessment requirement will receive a Pass, Fail or Incomplete.
5. All assessment items must be attempted/submitted. Each Assessment item must be passed.
6. If assignments are submitted after the due date without an approved extension of time, a penalty of 20% of the mark awarded by the examiner for the assessment item will apply for each week late.