**COURSE TITLE:** Children's Literature I

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<th>CODE NO:</th>
<th>ED 105</th>
<th>SEMESTER:</th>
<th>Two</th>
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**PROGRAM:** Early Childhood Education

**AUTHOR:** Jaye Bennett

**DATE:** January 1997  
**PREVIOUS OUTLINE DATED:** January 1996

**APPROVED:**

Donna Tremblay, Dean  
Health and Human Sciences and Teacher Education

<table>
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<th>Total Credits:</th>
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**Prerequisites:** ENG 120 Communication Skills

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<th>Length of Course:</th>
<th>15 weeks</th>
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<tr>
<td>Total Credit Hours:</td>
<td>45 hours</td>
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<td>Contact Hours:</td>
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I. Course Description

In this course, the student will examine a wide range of examples of children's literature. The important characteristics of books, stories, poems and pictures will be discussed. Methods of presentation and ways of including and enjoying literature in the school curriculum will be a primary focus.

II. Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, the student will demonstrate the ability to:

1. Demonstrate a knowledge of the history of literature with particular emphasis on children's literature.
2. Formulate and express an opinion on current issues and trends in children's literature.
3. Develop procedures for appropriate book selection and presentation.
4. Formulate plans which recognize and include literature as an integral part of a developmentally appropriate preschool curriculum.
5. Choose literature that is consistent with principles of fairness, equity, and diversity to support the development of learning of individual children, within the context of family, culture and society.

III. Topics to be Covered

1. Values of Literature for Children
2. History of Children's Literature
3. Book Selection Criteria
4. Culture, Stereotypes and Censorship
5. Genres
6. Literature in the ECE curriculum
7. Literacy Criticism

Note: These topics sometimes overlap and are not always intended to be dealt with as isolated units.

IV. Required Text

Growing Up With Literature, by Sawyer and Comer

V. Assignments

1. In Class Assignments
   Various "overnight" projects as assigned to be handed in and/or reported on in class - 15%

2. Prepared Story Presentation
   Present a story (appropriate for preschoolers) in class. The student is expected to have rehearsed the story extensively and use all devices to make the story a valuable experience for children. The student will also hand in a list and explanation of five related activities to extend the story experience. (Schedule to be arranged in class) - 15%
V. Assignments

3. Tests:
   All tests will be based on Class Discussions; “In-Class Assignments”; and Text readings - 15% each for a total of 45%

   Test #1 February 12
   Chapters 1-4 and other material as presented in class

   Test #2 March 25
   Chapters 5-8 and other material as presented or assigned in class

   Test #3 April 16 and 19 (depending on Section)
   Chapters 9 & 10 and other material

4. Alternative Story Presentation - 15%
   In groups, students will present a story (suitable for preschoolers) to the class in an alternative manner. The students will introduce their choice by author and title and a brief explanation of theme. (Schedule to be arranged in class)

5. Classic Novel - 10%
   Each student will read a “classic” novel (chosen from the following list or approved by the instructor) and be prepared to discuss the book in class. Each student will also compose a 500 word essay explaining, in depth, why he or she believes that particular book is considered a “classic” (pay particular attention to theme and character!) - Due ________________.

   **Romance**
   Wuthering Heights, Bronte
   Little Women, Alcott
   Gone With the Wind, Mitchell

   **Science Fiction**
   1984, Orwell
   20,000 Leagues Under the Sea, Verne

   **Adventure**
   Treasure Island, Stevenson
   Robinson Crusoe, Defoe

   **Other (Social Commentary)**
   Oliver Twist, Dickens
   David Copperfield, Dickens
   Tom Sawyer, Twain

VI. Grading
1. In-class Assignments 15%
2. Prepared Story 15%
3. Tests 45%
4. Alternative Story 15%
5. Classic Novel 10%
VI. Grading (cont.)

College Grading Policy
A+ = 90 - 100%
A = 80 - 89%
B = 70 - 79%
C = 60 - 69%
R = Repeat (Less than 60%)

VII. Instructional Methods

This course is composed of mainly lecture and discussion. Depending on class size, a set number of student seminars will be decided upon early in the course. Some audio-visual materials (e.g. films, slides, records) will be presented during regular classes.

A detailed reading schedule will be provided. Students will be expected to attend regularly, read carefully, keep up-to-date, be knowledgeable, and to contribute to class discussions.

Assignments are expected to be submitted on time. Late assignments will be penalized. A detailed assignment schedule is provided.

VIII. Special Notes

Students with special needs (e.g. physical limitations, visual impairments, hearing impairments, learning disabilities) are encouraged to discuss required accommodations, confidentially, with the instructor.

Your instructor reserves the right to modify the course as he/she deems necessary to meet the needs of students.

Please do not discard this outline. It will be required by other educational institutions if you are attempting to obtain credit for this course.