Children’s picture books are often described as fundamental in nurturing the development of young children into engaged readers and fearless writers. Many adults have a special place in their hearts for picture books they loved as children; books they read over and over again, books that spoke to their hearts and minds, and books that helped them figure out the mystery of written language. In this inter-domain course, we will take a close look at children’s picture books and explore their magic through integrating humanities and the arts. We will read many, many books of different genres to examine how the written text and illustration work together to compose a work of art that we read, understand, enjoy and connect to. We will explore the criteria by which we judge the literary and artistic quality of picture books and will become acquainted with resources that can help us find exceptional books. We will also consider the significance of children’s literature representing diverse perspectives and will work to deconstruct the values and biases implicit in texts written for young children. Much of the course will be organized in a workshop format through which we will learn about the authoring and illustrating techniques and processes used by notable authors and illustrators of modern children’s picture books, while also experimenting with the same techniques through drafting and developing our own picture books. Our end goal will be to thoughtfully weave linguistic and visual composition elements to craft original multimodal texts for children.

General Education: Arts (GA)
General Education: Humanities (GH)
General Education - Integrative: Interdomain
GenEd Learning Objective: Crit and Analytical Think
GenEd Learning Objective: Integrative Thinking
GenEd Learning Objective: Key Literacies
LLED 400H: Teaching Reading in the Elementary School

3 Credits

Introduction to the reading program; acquaintance with materials and techniques; observations of reading instruction; correlation with human growth and development.

Honors

LLED 401: Teaching Language Arts in Elementary School

3 Credits

Principles, problems, materials, and techniques involved in teaching speaking, listening, writing, and reading in the elementary school. LLED 401 Teaching Language Arts in Elementary School (3) The purpose of LLED 401 is to acquaint teacher candidates with theories and practices of teaching writing. Candidates are immersed in the study and experience of workshop and strategic models of writing instruction. Basic goals of this course are to help candidates to use language well and thoughtfully concerning writing instruction, literacy, literature and culture; and to think through instructional problems thoroughly, using multiple sources of information to experiment with alternative solutions. We also expect candidates to understand the roles which culture plays in literacy practices, literature, identifications of “ability” and schooling; to learn how people function effectively in groups; and to develop a repertoire of organizational, instructional, and evaluative strategies. LLED 401 is part of a block of courses in a PSU teacher education program that is unified by the basic set of principles supporting the development of a broader and more inclusive understanding of texts, children, and communities.

Prerequisite: CI 295A or CI 295B; EDTHP115 or EDTHP selection; Concurrent: LL ED400, LL ED402 for CEAEED majors

LLED 402: Teaching Children's Literature

3 Credits

Survey of children's literature with an emphasis on the importance of literature in the development of the elementary school curriculum. LLED 402 Teaching Children's Literature (3) The purpose of LLED 402 is to familiarize teacher candidates with different theories and practices of teaching literature. Candidates are immersed in the study and experiences of literature and strategic models of literature instruction. Understanding that belief systems inadvertently determine the models of literature instruction educators adopt. LLED 402 asks candidates to be mindful of the diverse nature of our communities, and encourages them to strive to create literary communities that respect, value, and encourage multiple modes of expressions. The basic course goals are to help candidates to understand the importance of story in all human lives; to exhibit a wide repertoire of flexible strategies for interpreting literature; to understand socio-cultural influences upon writing and literature; to know and be able to use basic reference tools and selection guides for research; to become familiar with different genres, diverse texts, and styles; to read for sequence and for secrets; to articulate responses to literature across a variety of media; to weave into the exploration of each of these goals a struggle to understand and to accept human difference; and to understand the role that literature plays in the school curriculum. The course presents theories of teaching literature and models of literature instruction that place at the center socio-cultural practices typical of democratic literary communities. This requires knowledge of how literature and texts work in real life and in a variety of social and cultural contexts. Informed by research, standards and current practices, LLED 402 exhibits the power of literature, the complexities of students’ learning and experiences with texts, and the problem solving character of teaching. LLED 402 is part of a block of courses in a PSU teacher education program that is unified by the basic set of principles supporting the development of a broader and more inclusive understanding of texts, children, and communities.

Prerequisite: CI 295A or CI 295B; EDTHP115 or EDTHP selection; Concurrent: LL ED400, LL ED401 for CEAEED majors

LLED 411: Teaching Language Arts In Secondary Schools I

3 Credits

EXPLORATION OF LANGUAGE, LITERACY, AND CULTURE AND DEVELOPMENT OF CURRICULAR DESIGNS FOR TEACHING LANGUAGE ARTS IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

Prerequisite: ENGL 200 or 200-level literature course, ENGL 444; Concurrent: LL ED420

LLED 412: Teaching Language Arts in Secondary Schools II

3 Credits

Exploration of language, literacy, and culture and development of curricular designs for teaching language arts in secondary schools. LL ED 412W Teaching Language Arts in Secondary Schools II (3) This three-credit course addresses the theory, practice, and implications of teaching the English language arts at the secondary level. The course is the discipline-specific component of the Secondary Education block taken by majors in Secondary Education prior to student teaching. In this course, students explore issues in language, literacy, and culture and development of curricular designs for teaching language arts in secondary schools. Through in-class and out-of-class activities completed both independently and in collaboration, students read about, talk about, and practice teaching all of the language arts—reading, writing, speaking, listening, and thinking. Activities highlight ways of planning for instruction and ways of assessing student learning as teachers implement those plans. In addition, students will take up the professional issues facing beginning teachers of the English language arts; issues of professionalism and the teaching role, relationships with students, and how teaching can fit into a life. The course builds upon content developed in other courses in the major, including theories of reading, composition, media literacy, and pedagogy. Students engage in a variety of writing tasks both in support of developing course content and as a means of making their work public. This writing includes (but is not limited to) lesson planning, reflective writing on experiences both in the course and in related field experience, and the development of a professional portfolio. During class sessions, informal writing is used for a variety of purposes such as brainstorming, facilitating collaborative work, or framing discussion. Throughout the semester, students will receive feedback on a variety of portfolio components, which are revised and incorporated into a final version of the portfolio due at the end of the course. Portfolio contents vary according to instructor, but examples might include statements of educational philosophy, analysis of student writing from field experience, commentary on unit and lesson materials, reflective writing on reading and writing processes, and professional documents such as lesson plans and letters to mentors and potential employers.

Prerequisite: LL ED411 or LL ED400; Concurrent: CI 412W Writing Across the Curriculum
LLED 420: Adolescent Literature and Literacy
3 Credits

Exploration of adolescent literacy and curricular designs for using the diversity of cultural voices in adolescent literature in secondary schools.

Concurrent: LL ED411

LLED 421: Teaching Writing in Secondary Schools
3 Credits

This course will provide preparation for teaching writing in the secondary school context. Students completing this course will meet the following objectives: (a) Understand one's own history as a writer and as a student in relation to the student’s current and future practice in the teaching of writing; (b) Articulate principles of a process approach to writing instruction and a workshop learning environment for writing, grounded in research and theory; (c) Know and use strategies for supporting student writers as they work through writing processes; (d) Differentiate writing instruction for students with varying backgrounds and needs; (e) Access, evaluate, and use professional resources for writing instruction in ways that are consistent with principles grounded in research and theory; Course Content will include an orientation to writing processes, the social contexts of written genres, classroom environments for teaching writing, overcoming barriers to writing in adolescents, conferring and feedback, teaching the conventions of written English, and writing assessment. In addition, students in the course will engage in professional activities appropriate to a teacher of writing at the secondary level. To achieve these aims, students will engage in significant in-class and out-of-class writing activities. They will study examples of teaching practice and student writing from real secondary school classrooms. They will read and apply research on effective writing instruction. They will develop instructional plans and classroom resources for writing instruction. Finally, they will articulate stances for practice as teachers of writing as they begin their professional careers as teachers.

Prerequisites: 5th Semester standing

LLED 422: Teaching the Young Adult Literature Workshop
3 Credits

This course is designed to familiarize students with the genre and field of young adult (YA) literature and to provide a rationale and basis for practice for teaching adolescent literature in English Language Arts (ELA) courses utilizing a Reader’s Workshop format. By the end of this course, students will be able to: (a) Articulate a working definition of adolescent/YA literature; (b) Respond to a variety of YA literature texts individually and in a group to increase understanding, appreciation, and enjoyment of this literary genre; (c) Describe some of the trends and dominant concerns in the field of YA literature, including: multiculturalism, new/digital literacies, critical literacy, and censorship; (d) Choose YA texts appropriate for classroom use by gaining familiarity with a range of popular and/or award-winning YA literature titles; (e) Select YA texts that will stimulate interest, foster appreciation for the written word, and increase motivation of learners to read independently for pleasure and for personal growth; (f) Make and support claims about the use of YA lit in the ELA classroom; (g) Design lessons in the context of a reader’s workshop approach; (h) Explore, evaluate, and select instructional materials and professional resources for teaching with YA literature; and (h) Demonstrate an awareness of culturally responsive literature teaching and an understanding of how cultural, linguistic, and ethnic diversity impact teaching and learning as these ideas connect to YA literature. This course engages essential questions in the teaching of young adult literature in the workshop format. First, it invites students to engage the question “What is young adult literature (YA literature) or adolescent literature?” This is particularly important as the YA category grows in quantity and importance. Second, students consider, “How can we use YA literature to teach for social justice and social responsibility?” a question resonant with Standard Six of the National Council of Teachers of English’s Standards for the Preparation of Teachers of English Language Arts. Students will consider in depth the advantages and the challenges of using YA literature in secondary classrooms. They will learn promising practices in adolescent literacy and teaching young adult literature as well as methods and materials that teachers can use to maximize engagement for all students. Finally, students will engage the linked questions of “How can ELA teachers motivate students to read for pleasure and personal growth?” and “How do we humanize our YA literature teaching and teach for love, justice, joy, and wisdom?”

Prerequisites: LLED 420; LLED 520

LLED 445: Teaching English in Bilingual/Dialectal Education
3 Credits

Theories, techniques, materials for teaching English speaking, reading, writing to bilingual and nonnative speakers in elementary and secondary schools.

LLED 450: Content Area Reading
3 Credits

Study of reading skills and materials for specific content areas; diagnostic and instructional procedures for classroom teachers. LLED 450 Content Area Reading (3) LLED 450 is designed to explore the roles of texts and literacies within the daily lives of middle school age students. We will examine both in-school and out-of-school literacy practices related to meaning-making in specific communities of practice. In doing so, we will work from a broader definition of "text" that includes print, images, sound, hybrid combinations and artifacts from popular culture. In school, we examine how literacies are involved in the learning of content, emphasizing how social practices of thinking in different ways about the world have been organized into school subjects and how teachers can help students to engage productively in those practices. Out of school, we look at the ways in which this age group uses text and other forms of literacy to make sense of and in their lives. Toward that end, we look closely at the media that they use and the types of texts that are produced for and by them. Although we honor the traditional practices of academic disciplines, we recognize how new texts and tasks form those boundaries in order to pose and address school and everyday problems. The basic goals of this course are to help teacher candidates to use language well and thoughtfully concerning literacy, text, and culture; and to think through instructional problems thoroughly, using multiple sources of information to experiment with alternative solutions. We also expect candidates to understand the roles that culture plays in literacy practices, texts, schooling and assessments of "ability"; to learn how people function effectively in groups; and to develop a repertoire of organizational, instructional, and assessment strategies. This course considers how intermediate grades and middle schools are communities of practice that connect disciplines through the use of language and texts to make sense of the world. The communities surrounding schools influence these uses, and this course follows the students’ learning outside the classroom and schools as well as within.
Prerequisite: EDPSY014 or teaching experience

LLED 462: The Art of the Picturebook
3 Credits

An in-depth study of picturebooks as art objects providing aesthetic experiences and contributing to our aesthetic development in literacy education. LL ED 462 The Art of the Picturebook (3)The Art of the Picturebook explores a wide range of picturebooks with the idea that illustrations are visual art evoking thoughts and feelings. Because picturebooks provide aesthetic experiences and contribute to aesthetic development, they are rich and important sources for literacy education. This course provides opportunities to extend students' repertoire of strategies for making sense of picturebooks, to deepen knowledge about picturebooks and the artists who create them, and to consider ways to help children become more sophisticated readers of picturebooks. While picturebooks are often emphasized as integral to the literacy development of young children, they can be engaging and desirable for older children as well. Course topics include picturebooks for the very young, as well as picturebooks that could appeal to elementary and middle school children. Whether picturebooks appear relatively simple and straightforward or contain innovatively complex or metafictive design elements, close readings of them with an understanding of terminology offer opportunities to express and discuss reactions and interpretations. The Art of the Picturebook provides students a forum for exploring preferences, ideas, insights, and questions about selected picturebooks, along with curricular and pedagogical considerations. Course readings include interviews with illustrators, selections about creating picture compositions, and scholarly essays presenting theoretical perspectives and ideas about picturebooks as literature and art for children's literacy development. This course emphasizes that reading and interpreting picturebooks is an active, creative process that is socially, culturally, and historically situated. Authors and illustrators are influenced by culture, so their art reflects values of that culture, consciously or unconsciously. A reader's experience with a picturebook is also influenced by cultural and social contexts in a given moment. Because engaging in aesthetic experiences is an active, creative process, reading picturebooks is, as Jane Doonan (1993), author of Looking at Pictures in Picture Books, asserts, a form of play. The Art of the Picturebook approaches picturebooks as sources of deep play. The course also provides opportunities to research selected illustrators, both for class discussions and an illustrator study project (e.g., a Wiki page). The culminating illustrator study project involves an in-depth investigation of a key children's book illustrator and a process of sharing works-in-progress with classmates for collaborative editing.

Prerequisite: ENGL 015 and 5th semester standing or higher

LLED 464: Nonfiction Literature for Children and Adolescents
3 Credits/Maximum of 3

A study of nonfiction literature for children and adolescents with an emphasis on inspiring curiosity and agency. LL ED 464 Nonfiction Literature for Children and Adolescents Nonfiction Literature for Children and Adolescents explores a wide range of nonfiction literature in a variety of subject areas including social studies, math, science, and the arts. This course takes the position that reading nonfiction literature can inspire curiosity and a life-long love of learning, shape inquiry, nourish empathy and compassion, and inform agency. Topics include nonfiction literature as a catalyst for inquiry, creative nonfiction and hybrid texts, biographies and autobiographies, and nonfiction literature for agency. This course also examines techniques of writing nonfiction literature to develop an understanding of strategies that published authors use to create engaging works to inform readers and provide pleasurable reading experiences. This understanding can help adults who work with children and adolescents recognize and identify the qualities that they find desirable for selecting and sharing nonfiction literature with children and youths, whether shared for reading or serving specifically as mentor texts for writing.

Prerequisite: ENGL 015, 5th semester standing or higher

LLED 465: Fantasy Literature for Children
3 Credits

A study of fantasy literature for children looking at a variety of fantasy stories and examining them from different perspectives. LL ED 465 Fantasy Literature for Children (3) Fantasy Literature for Children explores a range of fantasy literature including literary fairy tales, toy fantasies, ghosts/horror/suspense, science fiction, reworked fairy tales, low fantasy, and high fantasy. This course will consider different rationalizations for fantasy literature and will examine some of the key stories that illustrate fantasy from different perspectives, such as literary, social, and psychological angles. This course will look at, first, the beginnings of modern fantasy with the fairy tales of Hans Christian Andersen and Carlo Collodi’s classic, Pinocchio. Then the course reading will include ghosts and other supernatural fantasy stories, and fairy tales, a current trend in fantasy literature. Despite of some scholarly debates on science fiction, that is, whether it should be categorized into fantasy or not, this course will consider science fiction as being similar enough to fantasy for it to be included. The course will also include a study of fantasy books currently popular with school-age readers. Fantasy can be divided into two main groups: low fantasy and high fantasy. Several of the stories to be read in the course are perhaps best categorized as low fantasies, not because of what they are, but because they are not high fantasy, which has a mythic quality to it. High fantasy seems to go beyond the particulars of its story to explore the nature of good and of evil. Though high fantasies can be humorous at times, the overall tone is serious. Often characters are on quests and the stakes of success or failure usually involve saving the world from some great evil or preventing the tyranny of some powerful and evil ruler. Reading the different types of fantasy literature and the literary critiques and analyses of those works, this course will be wrestling with the overall importance of those books in the lives of children by pondering imagination and its role in the lives of children throughout the course.

Prerequisite: ENGL 015 and 5th semester standing or higher

LLED 480: Media Literacy in the Classroom
3 Credits

Exploration of media languages and literacy in classrooms, learning in an electronic age; issues, ideas, and teaching strategies.

Concurrent: LL ED 411, LL ED 420

LLED 495: School Practicum in Reading
1-18 Credits/Maximum of 18

Supervised practicum providing field experiences at any grade level, with opportunities to assume various teaching roles.
**Prerequisite:** LL ED400

LLED 496: Independent Studies

1-18 Credits/Maximum of 18

Creative projects, including research and design, which are supervised on an individual basis and which fall outside the scope of formal courses.

LLED 496H: Independent Studies

1-18 Credits/Maximum of 18

Creative projects, including research and design, which are supervised on an individual basis and which fall outside the scope of formal courses.

Honors

LLED 497: Special Topics

1-9 Credits/Maximum of 9

Formal courses given infrequently to explore, in depth, a comparatively narrow subject which may be topical or of special interest.

LLED 498: Special Topics

1-9 Credits/Maximum of 9

Formal courses given infrequently to explore, in depth, a comparatively narrow subject that may be topical or of special interest.