

**Indiana University  
Request for New Credit Certificate Program**

Campus: Indiana University Bloomington

Department: Literacy, Culture & Language Education (LCLE)

Proposed Title of Certificate Program: Certificate in Children's and Young Adult Literature

Proposed Date of Implementation: Spring 2014

TYPE OF CERTIFICATE: (check one)

UNDERGRADUATE CERTIFICATES—These programs generally require 12-29 credits of undergraduate-level academic work.

GRADUATE CERTIFICATES—These programs generally require 12-29 credits of graduate-level academic work or undergraduate academic work carrying graduate credit.

POST-BACCALAUREATE CERTIFICATES—These programs generally require 12-29 credits of undergraduate-level academic work, although students enrolling in these programs must have completed their baccalaureate degrees.

**I. Why is this certificate needed? (Rationale)**

--Interest in courses about children's and young adult literature has grown as measured by inquiries for admission to master's and doctoral programs in LCLE and in increased enrollment in existing courses.

--A core of graduate students, both in Literacy, Culture & Language Education and in Curriculum & Instruction, are currently involved in or have the intention of doing research that focuses on issues within children's/young adult literature.

--A certificate meets the needs of both master's and doctoral students. It appeals to the interests of LCLE graduate students in elementary literacy, secondary literacy, and language education as well as students in other departments and schools. The courses already offered as pilot courses have drawn students from African Studies, East Asian Studies, Latino Studies, Curriculum & Instruction, and Information and Library Sciences.

--New on-site courses would draw new master's students and non-degree students to campus.

-- A certificate would formally recognize an area of expertise within a doctoral student's program of study and would be a site for fostering new research directions in the field.

--A certificate would provide a strong credential for graduating master's and doctoral students as they search for jobs in the literacy field.

--The Certificate addresses the Common Core Standards in Literature, such as text analysis; knowledge of and wide reading in literary genres; and understanding the craft and structure of literature.

--Similar certificate programs are offered as part of the literacy graduate programs in the following universities: The Pennsylvania State University, Ohio State University, University of Georgia, University of Minnesota, and the University of Arizona. Our program would be competitive with these universities and distinguish itself by emphasizing multicultural and international topics.

Two courses have already been field tested as topical courses (L630/L750) since 2009: Multicultural and International Literature for Children and Young Adults and Contemporary Issues in Children's and Young Adult Literature. Both courses have been fully enrolled with waiting lists. These two courses, therefore, are being proposed as **permanent, required courses** in the program:

**L631 Multicultural and International Literature for Children and Young Adults.** This course focuses on themes and issues in research about multicultural and international children's and young adult literature, such as race, gender, class, disability, and sexual orientation.

**L641 Contemporary Issues in Literature for Children and Young Adults.** This course offers perspectives on contemporary issues in literature for children and young adults. The course focus can change as a reflection of topics that are of current interest, including cultural and personal identity, immigration, language acquisition, and media.

-- The multicultural and international emphasis of the required courses in the Certificate would address the representation of international doctoral students in the LCLE department. When field tested, the required courses drew students from LCLE, C&I, African Studies, Library and Information Sciences, and Latino Studies.

--**Existing** LCLE courses would be offered as electives in the program:

**L508 Teaching Young Adult Literature.** This course explores the instructional potential of reading literature written for, by, or about young adults in middle and secondary classrooms **OR**

**L535 (distance education) Teaching Adolescent/Young Adult Literature.** The course highlights and analyzes recent young adult literature, acknowledging significant earlier texts and their distinguished features.

**L559 (on-site and DE) Trade Books in Elementary Classrooms.** Emphasizes the use of trade books in language arts and reading in elementary classrooms.

These courses are taken primarily by master's students but are open to doctoral students.

--**Two new courses** are proposed that would appeal to the research interests of doctoral students, particularly international students, but are also open to master's students wishing to delve into more advanced courses in the field of children's and young adult literature:

**L651 Topics in Children's and Young Adult Literature.** This course focuses on topics in children's and young adult literature that are genre-based, such as picture books, science fiction and fantasy, or folklore, within classroom contexts.

**L661 Latino/a Children's and Young Adult Literature.** The purpose of this course is to provide class members with an opportunity to ponder, discuss, and develop criteria for selection of quality children's and adolescent literature written or illustrated by Latinos/as and/or literature portraying Latino/a characters and themes.

--**Other electives offered occasionally:**

**Courses from the School of Library Sciences and English, if applicable.** The courses for children's and young adult literature in LCLE emphasize the use of books in classroom contexts and are therefore distinct from courses in SLIS (selection and use in libraries) and ENG (literary analysis). However, courses in these departments are offered occasionally that could be evaluated on an individual basis as to their applicability to this Certificate program.

**EDUC- L750 Topical Seminar in Literacy, Culture, and Language Education Research.** This course offers intensive study of research and theory in selected topics. Certain topics might be applicable to doctoral students in the Certificate program. Offered on an occasional basis.

## **II. List the major topics and curriculum of the certificate**

### **Requirements for the Certificate in Children's and Young Adult Literature:**

- 12 credit hours
- Graduate student status, degree or non-degree

### **Coursework**

#### Required Courses (6 credits)

- L631 Multicultural and International Literature for Children and Young Adults
- L641 Contemporary Issues in Children's and Young Adult Literature

Electives (6 credits)

- L559 Trade Books in Elementary Classrooms
- L508 Teaching Young Adult Literature in a Diverse Society
- OR
- L535 Teaching Adolescent Literature (distance education)
- L651 Topics in Children’s and Young Adult Literature
- L661 Latino/a Literature for Children and Young Adults
- Electives from SLIS and ENG, if applicable
- L750: Topical Seminar in Literacy, Culture, and Language Education Research (offered occasionally), if applicable

**Please note:** Detailed descriptions of L631, L641, L651, and L661 are provided in the new course forms; other courses are regularly offered by the department of Literacy, Culture, and Language Education. Applicable electives from SLIS and ENG will be considered by academic advisor(s) on a case-by-case basis for appropriateness within the Certificate program.

**Sequence of courses:**

New courses

<b>L631</b> Multicultural and International Literature for Children and Young Adults	Fall, Odd years
<b>L641</b> Contemporary Issues in Children’s and Young Adult Literature	Spring, Even years
<b>L651</b> Topics in Children’s and Young Adult Literature	Spring, Odd years
<b>L661</b> Latino/a Literature	Fall, Even years

Other electives (already established LCLE courses):

<b>L559</b> Trade Books in Elementary Classrooms	Spring, Every year
<b>L508</b> Teaching Young Adult Literature in a Diverse Society	Fall, Every year
<b>L535</b> Teaching Adolescent Literature (DE)	Offered occasionally
<b>L750</b> Topical Seminar in Literacy, Culture & Language Education Research	Offered occasionally

**Below is a possible sequence of course offering. In the following scenario, a student could complete the Certificate in 4 semesters or less. (Newly proposed courses are in bold):**

Academic Year	Fall	Spring
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2014-2015	Possible Electives-- <b>L661: Latina/o Literature</b> L508: Teaching Young Adult Literature in a Diverse Society SLIS 672: Literature for Youth	Possible Electives-- <b>L651: Topics in Children's and Young Adult Literature</b> L559: Books for Reading Instruction SLIS 672: Topic TBD
2015-2016	<b>L631: Multicultural and International Literature (required course)</b> Possible Electives-- L508: Teaching Young Adult Literature in a Diverse Society SLIS 672: Topic TBD	<b>L 641: Contemporary Issues in Children's and Young Adult Literature (required course)</b> Possible Electives-- L559: Books for Reading Instruction SLIS 672: Graphic Novels and Comics

### III. What are the admission requirements?

Two types of students would be eligible for the Certificate: graduate students enrolled in a degree program and non-degree graduate students. Non-degree graduate students would apply to the Certificate program directly. Admissions requirements would be: a graduate or undergraduate GPA of 3.0 and completion of a personal goals statement. Non-LCLE graduate students would apply directly. Admissions requirements would be: a 3.5 current GPA for doctoral students, and a 3.3 current GPA for master's students. LCLE graduate students would file an approved program of study and an application to graduate with the certificate.

### IV. List the major student outcomes (or set of performance-based standards) for the proposed Certificate.

Students will describe and demonstrate skills related to:

- Acquiring general knowledge of children's and/or young adult literature
- Understanding of the research methods used in children's/YA literature research, including critical content analysis, literary analysis, discourse analysis, and other qualitative and quantitative studies.
- Understanding of the theoretical perspectives involved in children's/YA research, such as reader response, literary studies, critical pedagogy, and feminist poststructuralist and critical race theories.
- Promoting learning in school settings that demonstrates goals of multicultural education

### V. Explain how student learning outcomes will be assessed (student portfolios, graduate follow up, employer survey, standardized test, etc.) and describe the structure/process for

**reviewing assessment findings for the purpose of ensuring continuous improvement of the Certificate.**

Coursework is facilitated through class discussions, videoconferences, blogging or reflective journals, and individual and collaborative project-based activities. Examples of these learning outcomes are: analyses of children's/YA books, author-illustrator projects, literacy logs, book trailers, blogs, text set analyses and presentations, mid-term and final exams, research papers, reflective journals, curriculum units, among others.

Students will be provided with criteria for assessment, including rubrics, detailed feedback on papers, and project-based performance assessments.

**VI. Describe student population to be served.**

- Master's and doctoral students in Literacy, Culture, and Language Education
- Literacy, Culture, and Language Education minors in the department of Curriculum and Instruction
- Non-degree graduate students enrolled in the Certificate in Children's and Young Adult Literature program
- Graduate students in the School of Education
- Graduate students across the Bloomington and other IU campuses across the state

**VII. How does this Certificate complement the campus or departmental mission?**

The mission of the LCLE department is to be actively engaged in improving literacy and building language skills around the world. The Certificate emphasizes multicultural and international perspectives in children's and young adult literature and therefore brings together students within and outside of the department who are interested in diverse perspectives in improving instructional procedures and curricula, and who are interested in issues of literacy and language education as educators, program directors, and college and university personnel.

**VIII. Describe any relationship to existing programs on the campus or within the university.**

No such program exists.

**IX. List and indicate the resources required to implement the proposed program. Indicate sources (e.g., reallocations or any new resources such as personnel, library holdings, equipment, etc.)**

No additional university resources will be needed for the implementation of the Certificate for Children's and Young Adult Literature.

**X. Describe any innovative features of the program (e.g., involvement with local or regional agencies, or offices, cooperative efforts with other institutions, etc.)**

This Certificate's three primary faculty members—Dr. Donna Adomat, Dr. Mitzi Lewison, and Dr. Carmen Medina—bring extensive experience in children's literature research, scholarly publications, and field based practices as well as affiliations to leading children's literature research associations. Because of these affiliations, graduate students' research will be conducted under the guidance of experienced faculty, and they will have the opportunity for disseminating their research at leading literacy conferences as well as literacy/literature journals.