Course Title: Writing Children’s Books

Instructor: Deborah Anderson

Course web page: http://www.collin.edu/ce/courses/writing-childrens-books.html

Course Description/Objectives: This intensive and interactive course will consist of reading, writing and sharing the best of children’s books. 1. We will analyze popular stories and illustrations. 2. Each student will create a story, and receive feedback on their rough drafts from students and the instructor in a workshop setting. 3. Students will learn the techniques of effective writing. 4. Participants will respond to others works and discuss what makes them publishable. The process of storyboarding will be explored. Publishing options will be shared, along with experiences and resources for marketing. Final projects or works in progress will be presented for additional feedback. A positive, “can do” attitude is necessary, and ongoing writing & revising outside of class.

Suggested Course Prerequisite(s): Children’s Picture book: 300-1000 word rough draft by Session 2. Children’s Middle Grade Novel: Outline/Concept only with sample pages by Session 2.

Materials Needed:

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1. We will analyze popular stories and illustrations.
2. Each student will create a story, and receive feedback from students and the instructor.
3. Students will learn the techniques of effective writing.
4. Participants will respond to others works and discuss what makes them publishable. The process of storyboarding will be explored. Publishing options will be shared, along with experiences and resources for marketing. Final projects or works in progress will be presented.

Certification Notes: Not a certificate course

Instructor Notes:

Textbook(s):

Lesson Plan – by week or session
Session 1: Introductions, popular picture books, story starter ideas, award winners, children’s poetry and audio books will be shared and discussed.
Session 2: Developing your concepts, using writing techniques, starting the writing process, sketches, storyboarding, and illustration. Workshop session.
Session 3: Copyrighting your work, writing advice and examples from the experts, share your writing, sketches, and illustrations with the class for constructive feedback in a workshop session.
Session 4: Contracts, agents, publishing companies and marketing, presenting your works in progress or final projects for feedback, along with an action plan based on your research. (Finals)

**Course Sessions:** listed are a guideline to indicate all topics that will be covered during your course. Do not plan your personal calendar based on these sessions. Your instructor will give you a calendar for your class that will indicate specific topics, assignments, and days.

**Method of Evaluation:** Unless otherwise stated, course completion is evaluated on the basis of attendance. Students must be in attendance 90% of the class time in order to be considered a successful completer of the course.

Students must be in attendance 90% of each course in a certificate series for successful completion and to earn a certificate as specified.

Students must complete all courses (core and no. of elective courses needed) to complete a certificate series within two years from start date of the first course taken.

**Americans with Disabilities Act:** Collin College will adhere to all applicable federal, state and local laws, regulations and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to contact the ACCESS office, SCC-G200 or 972.881.5898 (V/TTD: 972.881.5950) to arrange for appropriate accommodations. See the current Collin Student Handbook for additional information.

http://www.collin.edu/studentresources/personal/studenthandbook.aspx