

Graduate Studies Programs

Master of Arts in Children's Literature and Master of Science in Library Services for Children

About the Program

This dual degree program offers a unique opportunity for students interested in the synthesis and comparison of two unique approaches to children's literature to combine their applied work (M.A. in Children's Literature) with their professional credentials (M.S. in Library Services). As children's literature has re-entered mainstream discussions of both adult's and young people's reading, librarians, teachers, booksellers, writers, illustrators, and publishers are increasingly interested in critical and pragmatic discussions of this diverse and growing body of texts. The Center for the Study of Children's Literature at Simmons has administered a Master of Arts in Children's Literature for thirty years. The first of it's kind, the M.A. in Children's Literature studies historical, critical, and theoretical contexts in works produced for children and young adults. The Graduate School of Library and Information Science offers specialized literature and services courses to those students interested in increasing their familiarity with these materials with an eye towards professional youth services in libraries. While both graduate degree programs reference the same literary history and body of material, each is characterized by distinct perspectives and methodologies.

Application Requirements

Applicants must submit the following material to the Office of Graduate Studies Admission: an application, a resume, a \$35 application fee, official transcripts, two letters of recommendation (one from an external academic source), GRE scores (waived for those students who already hold a master's degree or who have attained a 3.0 GPA in their undergraduate studies), and a 500 word statement of purpose describing the relationship of the dual degree program to the applicant's professional and academic goals. An interview is recommended.

Educational Promise

Simmons College is located in the heart of Boston, a world-class city renowned for unlimited educational, career, and social opportunities. All programs provide a challenging educational experience in which every student develops an informed, critical, and committed voice, and learns to be a leader and collaborative member of the professional community. Simmons College was named a "Best College" in its category in the 2006 *US News & World Report*. Simmons was also included in the 2006 *Princeton Review* "Best 351 Colleges," and was named among the "Best in New England" in the first-ever edition of *Princeton Review's Best Northeastern Colleges*. Simmons believes passionately in an educational promise that places students first, helping them build successful careers and realize a powerful return on their educational investment.

"I am able to examine the same types of stories, and sometimes even the same books, through two radically different lenses, engaging in both book-centered and child-centered readings of the texts at all times. What I learn in each department enhances my readings in the other, by forcing me to question everything I am learning and contextualize it in a way I would not have otherwise known how to do."

AMY STERN '08GS/LS



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Coursework

This 57-59 credit program (credit count varies based on electives chosen) requires successful completion of the following 17 courses:

Nine courses (27 credit hours) in Library and Information Science

Five core courses in library and information science	15 credits
LIS 403 Evaluation of Information Services	
LIS 404 Principles of Management	
LIS 407 Reference/Information Services	
LIS 415 Information Organization	
LIS 488 Technology for Information Professionals	
LIS 481 Children's Literature and Media	3 credits
LIS 483 Young Adult Literature	3 credits
One of the following:	3 credits
LIS 482 Library Programs and Services for Children	
LIS 531L Library Programs and Services for Young Adults	
One of the following:	3 credits
LIS 423 Storytelling	
LIS 520N Literacy: The Issue and the Library's Response	
LIS 520O Information Sources for Children	
LIS 450 Organization and Management of Public Libraries	

Six courses (24 credit hours) in Children's Literature

Five core courses in Children's Literature	20 credits
CHL 401 Criticism of Literature for Children	
CHL 403 The Picturebook	
CHL 413 Contemporary Realistic Fiction	
CHL 414 Fantasy and Science Fiction	
AND	
CHL 411 Victorian Children's Literature	
OR	
CHL 423 19 th Century American Children's Literature	
One elective course in Children's Literature	4 credits

One shared Library and Information Science/ Children's Literature course

3 credits

One elective chosen from one of the following disciplines

3 or 4 credits

Library and Information Science, Children's and Youth Services
Library and Information Science
Children's Literature

Contact Us

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For detailed course descriptions, view the online course catalog at
<http://my.simmons.edu/courses/browse>.



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