

MODULE SPECIFICATION FORM

Module Title: Introduction to Children's Writing	Level: 4	Credit Value: 20
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Module code: HUM433	Cost Centre: GAHN	JACS3 code: W800
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Trimester(s) in which to be offered: 2	With effect from: September 2014
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Office use only: To be completed by AQSU:	Date approved: July 2014 Date revised: - Version no: 1
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Existing/New: New	Title of module being replaced (if any): HUM403 Writing for Children
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Originating Academic Department: Creative Industries	Module Leader: Dr Mike Miles
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Module duration (total hours): 200	Status: core/option/elective (identify programme where appropriate): Core
Scheduled learning & teaching hours: 60	
Independent study hours: 140	
Placement hours: 0	

Programme(s) in which to be offered: BA (Hons) English and Creative Writing BA (Hons) History and Creative Writing	Pre-requisites per programme (between levels): None
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Module Aims:

This module aims to:

- Help students produce original and sustained pieces of writing based on existing models and practices in different genres
- Consider the social, psychological and moral aspects of literature for children

Intended Learning Outcomes:

At the end of this module, students will be able to:

1. Produce examples of writing for children in a range of formats, styles and genres (KS1, KS4)
2. Show understanding of the needs and requirements of the child as reader, including consideration of age, background, and the construction of the child as hero/villain within text (KS7)
3. Show evidence of critical self-reflection in relation to their own writing (KS3, KS5)

Key skills (KS) for employability

1. *Written, oral and media communication skills*
2. *Leadership, team working and networking skills*
3. *Opportunity, creativity and problem solving skills*
4. *Information technology skills and digital literacy*
5. *Information management skills*
6. *Research skills*
7. *Intercultural and sustainability skills*
8. *Career management skills*
9. *Learning to learn (managing personal and professional development, self-management)*
10. *Numeracy*

Assessment:

100% summative assessment via Creative Writing Portfolio, which will include examples of at least two Children's genres.

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting	Duration (if exam)	Word count (or equivalent if appropriate)
1	1,2,3	Portfolio	100%		4,000

Learning and Teaching Strategies:

- Lectures – on various aspects of the children’s writing process
- Practical classes and workshops – in which students share their writing experience
- Seminars
- Tutorials
- Guided independent study – to inform portfolio content and seminar/tutorial discussions

Indicative Syllabus outline:

- Finding the right voice
- Using the senses
- Realism
- Fantasy/horror
- Picture Books
- Traditional fairy stories, myths and legends
- The modern fairy story
- Historical fiction for children
- Writing poetry for children
- Building a portfolio and writing a critical commentary

Bibliography:

Essential reading

Extracts provided by tutor

Indicative reading

Bruno Bettelheim, *The Uses of Enchantment*. (London: Penguin, 2006).

Cleaver, Pamela, *Writing a Children’s Book*. (Oxford: How to Books, 2000).

De Gale, Ann, *Writing for the Teenage Market*. (London: A & C Black, 1993).

Propp, Vladimir, *Morphology of the Russian Folktale*. (Austin, Texas: University of Texas Press, 1968)

Shulevitz, Uri, *Writing with Pictures* (New York: Watson-Guptill, 1997)

Tucker, Nicholas, *The Child and the Book* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1998)