WSP 105: Writing for Children & Young Adults: A Two-Day Overview

Instructors: Elissa Haden Guest & Lynn E. Hazen

Course Schedule: 2 Saturdays, May 9 and March 16, 2020
9:45 a.m. - 3:30 pm

Tentative Weekly Outline:

Week 1 – Saturday, May 9, 2020

- Picture books for ages 0 to 8
- Craft examples from exemplary picture books
- Early Readers and Young Chapter Books for ages 5-10
- Craft examples from exemplary early readers and young chapter books
- Appealing genres, characters and predicaments for picture books through young chapter books
- Fun & engaging writing prompts
- Q & A

Week 2 – Saturday May 16, 2020

- Middle Grade (ages 8-12) and Young Adult (ages 12 & up)
- Categories and Genres
- Resonating characters and predicaments for ages 8-12, and 12 and up
- Craft examples from exemplary Middle Grade and Young Adult novels
- Engaging writing prompts to explore the world of older children and young adults
- Next steps: Revisions and sustaining a creative life
- Practical tips about the world of publishing
- Searching for an agent and publisher, and the editorial process.
- Q & A

Grade Options:

No Grade Requested (NGR): This is the default option. No work will be required; no credit shall be received; no proof of attendance can be provided.

Requirements for a Letter Grade and /or Credit: Attend both class sessions, write and participate
Please Note: If you require proof that you completed a Continuing Studies course for any reason (for example, employer reimbursement), you must choose either the Letter Grade or Credit/No Credit option. Courses taken for NGR will not appear on official transcripts or grade reports.

**Required Text(s):** none

**Recommended (optional) Text(s):**

Optional Reading: If you have time, feel free to read or browse any of the optional books below:

*The Writer's Guide to Crafting Stories for Children* by Nancy Lamb

*Little Owl Lost* by Chris Haughton

Any of the classic *George and Martha* books by James Marshall

Any books in the *Iris & Walter* series by Elissa Haden Guest

*The Remarkable Journey of Coyote Sunshine* by Dan Gemeinhart

*Shifty* by Lynn E. Hazen

*Black Enough: Stories of Being Young and Black in America*, edited by Ibi Zoboi