UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Children's Literature Workshop

2526-4-G8501R047-G8501R076M

Course title

The picturebook

Topics and course structure

A 12-hour compulsory workshop is attached to the 'Children's Literature' course.

The workshop, which is structured in 3 sessions of 4 hours each and is aimed at groups of a maximum of 32 participants, focuses on the picturebook as a specific textual form.

In the 3 workshop's meetings, the participants will have the opportunity to reflect in depth and concretely - i.e. by working in small and large groups on specific literary objects - on the peculiarities of this textual form and its possibilities of use in the context of pre-school and primary school.

In particular, the workshop conductor will present and discuss within the group:

- some essential "points of attention" for understanding the "grammar" on which the textuality of the book is based
  o materiality
  o graphic
  o the concept of "textum" or "iconotext"
  o the 'double page' and the concept of module
  o sequence and rhythm
  o the " turn of the page "
  o styles and techniques
  o the reader
- some crucial theoretical and epistemological issues:

  - o narrative and non narrative picturebooks;
  - o literary and thematic picturebooks;
  - o ideal and real readers.
- the educational opportunities opened up by the use of picturebooks at school;
- the resources offered by the territory: libraries and bookshops;
- the resources offered by the network: digital libraries;
- specialistic magazines.

Objectives

The main objectives of the workshop are

- enable students to begin to discover a vast and varied literary world within which it is possible to find literary materials that can be easily used in the school context to bring children closer to the experience of literature;
- offer tools to assess the quality of illustrated books and thus orient themselves in an extremely broad and multiform panorama that is in full expansion;
- practice a form of reading that demands patience and attention and where each element, whether verbal or visual, plays its own specific role in the construction of the story and, consequently, of the reader's experience;
- experimenting personally with conducting reading activities and group discussion - among peers - of this type of literary object;
- be aware of the resources offered by the territory and the network with respect to the world of illustrated books.

Methodologies

Large and small group work;
discussions about the texts;
research of sources and materials.

Online and offline teaching materials

Picturebooks;
PDF of the texts.

Programme and references

Attendance at the workshop does not require the study of specific texts, however there are some reference texts that can facilitate entry into the world of illustrated books:

Hamelin (a cura di), *Ad occhi aperti. Leggere l'albo illustrato*, Donzelli, Roma 2012.

I. Tontardini, "Asimmetrie", in L. Cantatore, Nicola Galli Laforest, G. Grilli, M. Negri, G. Piccinini, I. Tontardini, E. Varrà, *In cerca di guai. Studiare la letteratura per l'infanzia*, edizioni junior, Parma 2020, pp. 177-203.

Assessment methods

The workshop does not include a final examination.
Approval is subject to attendance and participation at the workshop.

Office hours

Programme validity

Course tutors and assistants

Sustainable Development Goals

QUALITY EDUCATION