

YOUTH SERVICES IN PUBLIC LIBRARIES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS

A Specialization in the Masters in Library and Information Science Degree

GSLIS/Dominican University

Youth services in public libraries refers to the programming, reference, and collection development specifically tailored to children and young people, as well as the adults who interact with them. Youth services librarians promote and nurture the habit of reading, evaluate and utilize print and electronic information sources, collaborate with other educators, develop outreach programs for their service community, provide opportunities for parenting education and family literacy programs, and design and present activities that help young people develop their creativity, interests, and talents.

The American Library Association recommends the following competencies for Children's and Young Adult Librarians:

- knowledge and understanding of the client group
- materials and collection development
- programming skills
- communication skills
- administrative and managerial skills
- advocacy, public relations and networking
- professional commitment and development

ALSC <http://www.ala.org/ala/alsc/alscresources/forlibrarians/professionaldev/competencies.htm>

YALSA <http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/profdev/yacompetencies/competencies.htm>

GSLIS CORE (12 CREDITS-4 CLASSES)

LIS 701: Introduction to Library and Information Science

LIS 703: Organization of Knowledge

LIS 704: Reference and Online Services

LIS 899: Capstone

REQUIRED MANAGEMENT COURSE (3 CREDITS-1 CLASS)

LIS 770: Management of Libraries and Information Centers

YOUTH SERVICES COURSES (15 CREDITS-SELECT FIVE CLASSES)

LIS 718: Storytelling for Adults and Children

LIS 719: History of Children's Literature

LIS 720: Enhancing Language and Literacy Development in Young Children through Children's Literature
LIS 721: Library Materials for Children
LIS 722: Library Materials for Young Adults
LIS 723: Services for Children and Young Adults
LIS 762: Literacy and Library Involvement

ELECTIVES (6 CREDITS)

NOTE: THE COURSES LISTED HERE ARE STRONGLY RECOMMENDED

LIS 748: Collection Management
LIS 753: Internet Fundamentals and Design
LIS 768: Library 2.0
LIS 771: Public Libraries
LIS 799: Practicum (recommended for those without public library work experience)