



DOMINICAN UNIVERSITY
Where Learning Demands More

Curriculum

The degree requires the completion of 36 hours of graduate course credit. This includes four required courses (12 credit hours):

- History of Children's Literature
- Diversity Issues in Youth Literature
- Literary Theory and Youth Literature
- Materials for Children or Materials for Young Adults

The degree also requires the completion of six elective courses (18 credit hours). You will choose from among the following options:

- Storytelling
- Picture Books and Emergent Literature
- Digital Humanities
- Book Reviewing and Publishing for Children and Young Adults
- Fairy Tale Fantasy and Contemporary Media for Young Adults
- The Fantasy Tradition in Children's Literature
- Graphic Novels
- History of Folk and Fairy Tales for Youth
- Picture Book Illustration
- Bologna Children's Book Fair
- Independent Study/Research

In your last two semesters of study, you will complete a thesis (6 credit hours) that demonstrates your mastery of the program's objectives.

Youth Literature

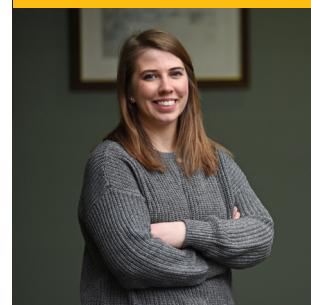
The Master of Arts in Youth Literature is ideal preparation for advanced service to children and young adults as a teacher, librarian, reviewer, editor or writer. Our powerful, values-based curriculum emphasizes the practical application of leading-edge theory in professional practice.

Prepare for leadership—side by side with the experts

Our School of Information Studies, Chicago's iSchool, has a long and distinguished history in the study of literature and other materials for children and young adults. In small classes, you'll work face to face and online with recognized experts in the field, supported by the unique presence on campus of the Butler Center for Children's Literature and its rich collections. You'll study the vast variety of formats and genres of youth literature—from board books to graphic novels and beyond—and situate each work in its cultural and historic contexts. You'll evaluate literature for a variety of ages from the personal, pragmatic and professional perspectives while examining the dynamic relationship between young readers and their texts.

A program designed for the busy professional

With all the demands of home and career, who has time to earn a high-impact master's degree? You do. You can complete the program in as many as six years or as little as two years. You'll enjoy the flexibility and support you need to meet your job and family obligations while advancing your intellectual and professional objectives.



"Each student is assigned a faculty advisor, and every faculty member is readily available to answer any question you have, about the subject matter or the profession. If they don't know the answer, they'll refer you to someone who does."

Bridgette Thoma

Graduate, School of Information Studies

Our Faculty

Our faculty come from across the country and around the world, bringing with them a wealth of real-world experience and visionary approaches to advancing the field. They are passionate educators who thrive in Dominican's setting, where personal attention and individualized mentorship are the primary focus.



The Butler Children's Literature Center

A unique asset of the School for Information Studies, the Butler Children's Literature Center supports adults in schools, libraries, childcare centers and homes working to engage children and young adults with good books. The Butler Center serves the community as an examination center for books published annually for young readers. Teachers, librarians, parents and the general public visit the center to review the latest offerings from publishers in the field. The center offers events, conferences, discussion groups and other forms of professional development. Courses focused on youth services are open to working professionals as well as MAYL and MLIS students. The center is home to significant historical collections, including the Ellin Greene Storytelling Collection and the Effie Lee Morris Collection of African American-focused Books for Children.

Our goal: your success

Prepare for a life of purpose and impact

This high-impact program will prepare you for outstanding service in a range of dynamic fields. Jobs in elementary and secondary schools and public libraries are projected to grow steadily in coming years. What's more, the prospects and salaries of teachers, librarians, reviewers and editors are enhanced for professionals with master's degrees. The MAYL program will provide you with a concentrated focus not only on youth literature as an aesthetic object but also on the intended audience for that literature as well as on the practitioners who use it. The program has a strong foundation in ethics and a commitment to social responsibility and radical inclusion in the field of children's and young adult literature.

The iSchool at Dominican: an amazing legacy of excellence

Since 1930, Dominican University has produced generations of leaders in the ever-evolving field of library and information science. Today, the iSchool at Dominican offers powerful graduate and undergraduate programs within a relationship-based learning environment. You'll find graduates from Chicago's iSchool contributing to the success of libraries, schools, research institutions, government agencies, nonprofit organizations, corporations, and cultural institutions across the United States. Join these skilled professionals by earning a degree in the field of children's and young adult literature with a foundation of ethics, social responsibility, and radical inclusion.

Learn More

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"We have an 80-year tradition of inspiring learners and producing leaders who understand that access to literature and information is essential to success and a basic human right. At the I-School, you'll gain not only knowledge and skills but a deep understanding of ethics and social responsibility in this indispensable profession."

Kate Marek

Director, School of Information Studies