

Additional Contact Details: mltaylor@yorku.ca

Expanded Course Description (expanded from course calendar description):

What is childhood? How has it changed over time? This course examines what it meant to be young in different times and places in the United States and Canada. It provides a historical perspective on what is often seen as a 'natural' developmental stage. We will ask how gender, race, class, religion, nationality, and ability have affected children's experiences and concepts of childhood, and how children and childhood have influenced adults. The course is also designed to build critical skills in reading, writing, listening, research, and historical analysis.

Required Course Text/Readings: ***TENTATIVE***

Most course readings can be accessed through eClass. In addition, students will read three books:

David Nasaw, *Children of the City: At Work & at Play* (NY, 2012)

Bev Sellars, *They Called Me Number One: Secrets and Survival at an Indian Residential School* (Vancouver, 2013)

Melba Pattillo Beals, *Warriors Don't Cry: The Searing Memoir of the Battle to Integrate Little Rock's Central High School* (NY, 2007)

Weighting of Course: ***TENTATIVE Grade Breakdown***

Tutorial Participation: 20%

Three Papers: 50%

Quizzes and Exams: 30%

Organization of the Course:

Lecture and weekly 50-minute tutorials

Course Learning Objectives:

Students who complete this course will: (1) acquire an understanding of childhood as a social construction; (2) deepen their understanding of the historical diversity of children's experiences; (3) improve their ability to critically engage and interpret a variety of primary and secondary sources; (4) improve their ability to develop evidence-based arguments and present them clearly and concisely in written essays; (5) gain an appreciation of the limits of knowledge and the complex processes of change over time; (6) improve their ability to respond to different perspectives with openness, sensitivity, compassion, and respect.

Additional Information/Notes:

Course Trailer <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yJcXI7t4UpU>