Description: Simmons College professor and author Megan Dowd Lambert will present a range of picture books, many by Jewish authors and illustrators, to provide an introduction to her Whole Book Approach (WBA) storytime model. She developed the WBA in association with The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art and it is the subject of her book, Reading Picture Books with Children: How to Shake Up Storytime and Get Kids Talking About What They See (Charlesbridge 2015). Drawing on this work, attendees will consider how words, pictures and design elements work together to tell stories and convey information to picture book readers. The group will also reflect on the difference between reading with children and reading to children as it examines the role of adult mediators in children’s reading experiences.

Megan Dowd Lambert, Senior Lecturer in Children’s Literature at Simmons College, is the author of Reading Picture Books with Children, which introduces the Whole Book Approach to storytime that she developed in association with The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art. She received a 2016 Ezra Jack Keats New Writer Honor for her picture book A Crow of His Own, and Real Sisters Pretend was named a 2017 Notable Social Studies Trade Book for Young People. The mother of seven children ages 0-21, Megan writes for Kirkus and The Horn Book and lives with her family in Massachusetts. Visit her website at www.megandowdlambert.com.