

Common Course Outline
ENGL 224
Literature by Women
3 Credits

Community College of Baltimore County

Description

ENGL 224 –3 Credits—Literature by Women examines a wide array of written texts produced by women around the world. Students learn how women writers in different historical, cultural, social, economic, and geographical contexts have used language and literature to communicate and question their experiences. Students are introduced to gender theory and feminist literary theory and criticism as methods to inform analysis of texts and contexts.

3 Credits

Prerequisite: Successful completion of English 101 with a “C” or better.

Overall Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

1. discuss and analyze a wide array of women writers, including both traditionally taught and recently recovered or emerging authors;
2. trace the outlines of distinctly female literary traditions and genres, and the conditions affecting women’s literary production;
3. trace the history of literature by women through the recognition of different literary genres and periods as they have been traditionally defined and discuss ways in which these definitions have been challenged;
4. analyze literary traditions and genres that have been traditionally female;
5. define stylistic characteristics, and analyze recurring themes reflected in literary works by women;
6. examine how gender roles develop and change and how women’s views of themselves are reflected in their writing;
7. engage in critical discussion about questions and problems related to the texts;
8. identify the different ways in which the concept of a female literary tradition has been defined, and analyze the ways in which this concept has reflected and supported aesthetic and ethical values associated with local and global cultures;
9. examine changing societal values and mores of the literary genre as they relate to the moral and ethical decisions of individuals;
10. assess the ways in which the selected literature reflects and contributes to its particular historical moment and cultural context;
11. analyze the ways in which issues of race, gender, and class shape works of literature;

12. write a well-informed literary analysis using appropriate terminology and textual support;
13. navigate scholarly databases, evaluate the available sources, and identify appropriate material;
14. incorporate appropriate academic sources into essays by summarizing, quoting, and paraphrasing ethically and correctly; and cite sources according to the assigned formatting and style guide;
15. utilize learning management systems (e.g. Blackboard) as appropriate to the academic environment, and
16. utilize appropriate technology to convey stylistically correct presentations.

Major Topics

- I. Gender theory
- II. Feminist literary and social criticism
- III. History of female authorship and literary tradition
- IV. Canon formation
- V. Genre studies (Fiction, Poetry, Drama, Letters, Journals, etc.)
- VI. Under-represented women authors (non-Western, racial minorities, working-class, lesbian, transsexual, etc.)

Course Requirements

Grading procedures, exams, and writing assignments will be determined by the instructor. However, all students will:

1. Participate in class discussions and/or online exchanges through established chat rooms, discussion boards, list serves, or other instructor-determined platform.
2. Write at least two literary analysis essays with appropriate academic sources, for a total of not less than 2500 words, and take at least one exam with an essay component.
3. Collaborate with peers on a project that will be presented to the class.
4. Multiple assignments must infuse CCBC General Education Program objectives, and at least one assignment worth a minimum 10% of the total course grade must allow students to demonstrate *at least 5* of the following General Education Program outcomes: Written Communication; Critical Analysis and Reasoning; Technological Competence; Information Literacy; Scientific and Quantitative or Logical Reasoning; Local and Global Diversity; and Personal and Professional Ethics.

Other Course Information

Students will utilize learning management systems and other technology as appropriate to the academic environment.

This course is an approved General Education course in the Arts and Humanities category. This course is also an approved General Education Diversity course. Please refer to the current CCBC Catalog for General Education course criteria and outcomes.

This course is cross-listed with WMST 224.

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