

## **ENGL 254**

### **Contemporary Themes in Literature**

3 Credits: (3 Lecture hours per week)

Community College of Baltimore County  
Common Course Outline

#### **Description**

**ENGL 254 – Contemporary Themes in Literature:** Explores a specific literary, social, or historical theme through selected reading-fiction, essays, letters, autobiography, poetry, and drama.

**Pre-requisites: ENGL 101**

#### **Overall Course Objectives**

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Formulate an extended definition of the theme;
2. Analyze significant themes, attitudes and issues in the works studied;
3. Analyze literary presentations of the themes as they emerge from the works studied;
4. Evaluate aesthetic, social, and moral issues as they emerge from the works studied; and
5. Demonstrate the ways in which their views of the issues have changed in response to the works studied.

#### **Major Topics**

- I. Theme in literature
- II. Social and moral dimensions of literature
- III. Literary analysis
- IV. Evaluation of literature
- V. Writing about literature

#### **Course Requirements**

Grading will be determined by the individual faculty member, but shall include the following, at minimum:

- Participate actively in class discussions
- Write essays totaling at least 2,500 words
- The final grade will be based on the students' writing, graded either cumulatively or in an end-of-the-course portfolio.

Written assignments and research projects: Students are required to use appropriate academic resources in their research and cite sources according to the style selected by their professor.

Date Revised: 9/25/2000

The Common Course Outline (CCO) determines the essential nature of each course.  
For more information, see your professor's syllabus.