ENGL 252

Studies in the Short Fiction

3 Credits: (3 Lecture hours per week)

Community College of Baltimore County Common Course Outline

Description

ENGL 252 – Studies in the Short Fiction: Explores short fiction from diverse backgrounds; emphasizes literary research and critical writing.

Pre-requisites: ENGL 101

Overall Course Objectives

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

- 1. Identify basic elements of short fiction (character, plot, exposition, symbolism, figurative language, point of view, etc.;
- 2. Assess the ways in which the selected literature reflects and contributes to its particular historical moments and cultural context;
- 3. Engage in critical/collaborative discussion about a text relevance to life today, and whether and how contemporary readers can benefit from it;
- 4. Analyze the ways in which issues of culture, race, gender, and class shape works of literature:
- 5. Identify different literary genres and periods as they have been traditionally defined and discuss ways in which these definitions have been challenged;
- 6. Write a well-informed literary analysis using appropriate terminology and textual support;
- 7. Access and apply relevant literary criticism found both in traditional sources and through the Internet; and
- 8. Work collaboratively on questions and problems related to the texts and on developing and refining their written work.

Major Topics

- I. Archetypal considerations
- II. Feminist viewpoints
- III. Psychological perspectives
- IV. Social and historical outlooks

Course Requirements

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

Participate actively in class discussion

- Write at least two essays and take at least one exam with an essay component, for a total of not less than 2,500 words. At least one essay will address issues of culture, race, class and/or gender in short fiction
- Participate in at least two projects or in-class exercises that require collaborative work
- Present information orally to the class at least once during the semester

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: 1/4/2005