

## **ENGL 224/WMST 224**

### **Literature by Women**

3 Credits

Community College of Baltimore County

Common Course Outline

#### **Description**

**ENGL 224 – Literature by Women:** is a course that 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. Literature by Women includes all woman-identified authors. NOTE: This course is cross listed with WMST 224. Earn credit for one only.

**Pre-requisites:** 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 a wide array of women writers, including both traditionally taught and recently recovered or emerging authors;
2. discuss different literary genres and periods as they have been traditionally defined, and the ways in which these definitions have been challenged;
3. trace the outlines of gendered traditions and genres, and the conditions affecting women's literary production;
4. trace the history of literature by women through the recognition of different literary genres and periods as they have been traditionally defined;
5. discuss ways in which the above definitions have been challenged;
6. analyze literary traditions and genres that have been traditionally associated with woman-identified authors;
7. analyze stylistic characteristics, and recurring themes reflected in literary works of each period;
8. engage in critical discussion about questions and problems related to the texts;
9. examine how gender roles develop and change and how women's views of themselves are reflected in their writing;
10. analyze the ways in which the concept of a female literary tradition has reflected and supported aesthetic and ethical values associated with local and global cultures;
11. examine changing societal values and mores of the literary genre as they relate to the moral and ethical decisions of individuals;
12. assess the ways in which the selected literature reflects and contributes to its particular historical moment and cultural context;
13. analyze the ways in which issues of race, gender, and class shape works of literature;
14. write a well-informed, logical literary analysis using appropriate terminology and textual support;

The Common Course Outline (CCO) determines the essential nature of each course.

For more information, see your professor's syllabus.

15. find, evaluate, use, and cite appropriate academic sources in essays according to the assigned formatting and style guide;
16. utilize digital resources for exploring humanities as appropriate to the academic environment; and
17. compose stylistically correct assignments using appropriate technology.

### **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 (such as Fiction, Poetry, Drama, Letters, Journals, etc.)
- VI. Under-represented women authors (such as non-Western, racial and/or sexual minorities, working-class, etc.)
- VII. Cultural contexts
  - a. Race, class, and gender in individual texts
  - b. Literary production and canon formation
- VIII. Inter- and intra-textual connections
- IX. Literary analysis

### **Course Requirements**

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

- participation in weekly discussions in-class and/or online
- literary analysis essay(s) with appropriate academic sources, of at least 2500 words, one of which assesses 5 of the 7 General Education Outcomes and accounts for 10% of the overall course grade
- one exam with an essay component
- collaboration with peers on a project that will be presented to the class.

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.

### **Other Course Information**

This course is an approved 3–credit General Education course in the Arts and Humanities. One or more assignments will infuse CCBC General Education Program outcomes and will account for a minimum of 10% of the total course grade. The assignment(s) will allow students to demonstrate at least 5 of the 7 General Education program outcomes. This course is approved for General Education Diversity.

Date Revised: 1/16/2024

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