

**Course Outline**  
**ARSC 101**  
**The Shaping of the Modern World I**  
**Credit Hours: 3**

**The Community College of Baltimore County**

**Description**

**The Shaping of the Modern World I**

Discusses questions fundamental to our diverse cultural heritage including origins, identity, and expression; defines works, ideas, people, and movements which have helped shape the modern world and explores integration of knowledge from a wide range of disciplines.

Prerequisites: Reading Skill 2; English Skill 2, and Math Skill 1. Co-requisite English 101.

**Overall Course Objectives**

Upon successful completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate some connections among the responses of the various arts and sciences to the three fundamental questions posed by the course (origins, identity and expression);
2. Identify selected works fundamental to their diverse cultural heritage;
3. Analyze critically works from a variety of perspectives;
4. Explain and assess architecture, art, music, drama and dance as well as the written word as forms of human expression;
5. Analyze questions of individual responsibility, ethics and values;
6. Demonstrate the ability to make informed decisions;
7. Express their ideas orally and in writing at the college level;
8. Compare and contrast their own culture with that of another;
9. Demonstrate effective critical thinking skills as they relate to the subject of this course;
10. Identify the intellectual contributions of Africa to an understanding of the human condition;
11. Recognize the importance of the concept of the “other” in understanding the construction of race and gender in society;
12. Utilize information from the Internet in oral and written communication about the course content;
13. Apply the course material to the formation/formulation of their own world view.

**Major Topics**

- I. Where did we come from?
- II. What are we?
- III. How do we express ourselves?

**Course Requirements**

Grading/exams: Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member but will include the following:

1. Comprehensive final exam;
2. Two unit papers (minimum of 3-5 pages each);
3. Two short papers on cultural activities;

4. A Mid-term evaluation;
5. Class participation;
6. A minimum of one collaborative learning project.

Writing: The individual faculty member will determine specific writing assignments.

### **Other Course Information**

This course is an elective, and fills the general education requirements in the Interdisciplinary/Emerging Issues category prior to fall 2001.

This course is the first course in a two-course sequence.

The Community College of Baltimore County is committed to providing a high-quality learning experience that results in growth in knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to function successfully as a transfer student, in a career and as a citizen. To accomplish this goal, we maintain high academic standards and expect to accept responsibility for their individual growth by attending classes, completing all homework and other assignments, participating in class activities and preparing for class.

We take seriously our responsibility to maintain high-quality programs and will periodically ask you to participate in assessment activities to determine whether our students are attaining the knowledge, attitudes and skills appropriate to various courses and programs. The assessment activities may take many different forms such as surveys, standardized or faculty-developed tests, discussion groups or portfolio evaluations. We ask that you take these activities seriously so that we can obtain valid data to use for the continuous improvement of CCBC's courses and programs.