

**Common Course Outline**  
**ENGL 207**  
**Native American Literature**  
**3 Hours**

**The Community College of Baltimore County**

**Course Description**

**Native American Literature introduces students to the writings about Native American life. Students read prose statements of belief and values, narratives describing culture as it was manifested in the past and the ways it has evolved in the present. They read myths, legends, and contemporary literature.**

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

**Overall Course Objectives**

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

1. assess the ways in which the selected literature reflects and also contributes to its particular historical moment and cultural context;
2. write a well informed literary analysis using appropriate terminology and textual support;
3. access and apply relevant literary criticism found both in traditional sources and through the Internet;
4. work collaboratively on questions and problems related to the texts, and on developing and refining their written work;
5. engage in critical/collaborative discussion about a text’s relevance to life today and whether and how contemporary readers can benefit from it;
6. analyze the ways in which issues of race, gender, and class shape works of literature
7. demonstrate Native American ways of looking at the world by adopting one of their modes of presentation or explanation to one or more events of life;
8. analyze selected Native American writers of fiction and poetry as it relates to their depiction of assimilation and achievement of personal identity;
9. compare and contrast issues of identity realization presented in stories of early Native Americans with issues of identity realization as presented by contemporary Native American writers;
10. analyze techniques used by contemporary authors in presenting contemporary Native American culture; and
11. evaluate the effectiveness of the presentation of issues and concerns in contemporary Native American literature.

**Major Topics**

- I. Beliefs, values, and concerns in Native American culture
- II. Native American oral literature including myths and legends

III. Contemporary Native American fiction reflecting the past and the present

IV. Poetry reflecting both earlier and contemporary style

### **Course Requirements**

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

1. Respond to specific questions on the readings in at least ten graded paragraphs. The paragraph responses will call upon students to describe, summarize, compare/contrast, analyze, and evaluate. They will be graded on both accuracy and development of an assertion.
2. Write at least three essays for a total of not less than 2500 words. At least one essay will address issues of race, class, and/or gender in Native American literature

### **Other Course Information**

Students will receive grades on the graded discussions and one assigned essay by the end of the first quarter of class.

This course is taught in a computerized environment. It may be taught face-to-face as well.