

Course Outline
English 224
Literature by Women
3 Credit Hours

The Community College of Baltimore County

Description

In this survey of Literature by Women, students will be introduced to a wide array of written texts produced by women around the world. Students will learn how women writers in different historical, cultural, and geographical contexts have used language and literature to communicate and question their experiences. Prerequisite: Successful completion of English 101 with a C or better, WMST 101, or permission of instructor.

Overall Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, the student 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 by women.
7. Articulate the basic premises of various feminist literatures, theories, and criticism.
8. Trace the outlines of distinctly female literary traditions.
9. Identify and analyze genres which have been traditionally female.
10. Trace the history of literature by women through the recognition of different literary genres and periods as they have been traditionally defined and discuss ways in which these definitions have been challenged.

11. Discuss and analyze a wide array of women writers, including both traditionally taught and recently recovered authors.

12. Re-assess the concept of a literary canon and its hierarchy of works.

Major Topics

I. Feminist theory

II. History of women's literature

III. Canon Formation

IV. Genre Studies (Fiction, Poetry, Drama, Letters, Journals, etc.)

Course Requirements (VII)

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

- Participate in class discussions and/or internet class exchanges through established chat rooms or list serves (VII)
- Write at least one essay exam (VII)
- Write at least one literary analysis paper of a minimum of three pages (VII)
- Give at least one oral presentation or speech (VII)

Other Course Information

This course is cross-listed with WMST 224.