

Common Course Outline
English 243
Contemporary Literature
3 Semester Hours

The Community College of Baltimore County

Description

Contemporary Literature

Explores selected works of contemporary Western literature from 1950 to the present.

Prerequisite: ENGL 101

Overall Course Objectives

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

- 1) Demonstrate familiarity with selected examples of important contemporary Western literature;
- 2) Identify the main trends, issues, and motifs in contemporary Western literature;
- 3) Understand the historical context of contemporary Western literature;
- 4) Apply relevant critical approaches and theories to works of contemporary Western literature;
- 5) Demonstrate the impact of social and cultural forces upon contemporary Western literature;
- 6) Demonstrate an awareness of the needs and problems of various national groups as expressed in contemporary Western literature;
- 7) Understand how various contemporary writers adapt archetypal motifs and structures;
- 8) Think and write critically about contemporary Western literature;
- 9) Develop their own literary analysis of a text;
- 10) Work collaboratively on issues presented by the texts.

Major Topics

- Canonical and non-canonical contemporary Western texts
- Selected historical/cultural studies of the contemporary period
- Selected literary criticism
- Film studies of the selected texts
- Genre studies
- Biography and autobiography

Course Requirements

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

- 1) Participate in class activities
- 2) Create a specified number of writing projects
- 3) Write as least one essay exam