

Common Course Outline
ENGL 205
World Literature I
3 Credits

Community College of Baltimore County

Description

ENGL 205 – World Literature I studies representative literary works spanning five continents, beginning with the invention of writing in the Ancient Near East to the Age of Global Exploration. Students engage with a variety of forms of expression - epics, poetry, drama, and philosophical expositions. The readings acquaint students with the attitudes and ideals characteristic of each culture, as well as historical and geographical influences on the development of the literature. Students analyze how the literature reflects conflicts, desires, and themes fundamental to the human experience.

3 Credits

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

Overall Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

1. analyze works of early world literature and texts representative of the wide diversity of racial and ethnic cultures that have expressed themselves through written word;
2. compare the different ways in which the concept of a literary tradition has been defined, and analyze the ways in which this concept has reflected and supported aesthetic and ethical values associated with diverse cultures;
3. engage in critical discussion about questions and problems related to the texts;
4. examine changing societal values and mores of the literary era as they relate to the moral and ethical decisions of individuals;
5. assess the ways in which the selected literature reflects and also contributes to its particular historical moment and cultural context;
6. analyze the ways in which issues of race, gender, and class shape works of literature;
7. write a well-informed literary analysis using appropriate terminology and textual support;
8. navigate scholarly databases, evaluate the available sources, and identify appropriate material;
9. incorporate appropriate academic sources into essays by summarizing, quoting, and paraphrasing ethically and correctly; and cite sources according to the assigned formatting and style guide;

10. utilize learning management systems (e.g. Blackboard) as appropriate to the academic environment, and
11. utilize appropriate technology to convey stylistically correct presentations.

Major Topics

- I. Invention of writing and earliest literature
- II. Poetry and thought in early Western mind
- III. China from Antiquity to the Middle Ages
- IV. Classical India
- V. The rise of Islam
- VI. Medieval Japan
- VII. Africa - The Mali Epic of Son-Jara
- VIII. Meso America—The Popol Vuh
- IX. The Age of global exploration
- X. Engaging global awareness: developing audience awareness of historical, cultural, and social contexts and analyzing diverse points of view in complex texts

Course Requirements

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

1. Participate in class discussions and/or online exchanges through established chat rooms, discussion boards, list serves, or other instructor-determined platform.
2. Write at least two literary analysis essays with appropriate academic sources, for a total of not less than 2500 words, and take at least one exam with an essay component.
3. Collaborate with peers on a project that will be presented to the class.
4. Multiple assignments must infuse CCBC General Education Program objectives, and at least one assignment worth a minimum 10% of the total course grade must allow students to demonstrate *at least* 5 of the following General Education Program outcomes: Written Communication; Critical Analysis and Reasoning; Technological Competence; Information Literacy; Scientific and Quantitative or Logical Reasoning; Local and Global Diversity; and Personal and Professional Ethics.

Other Course Information

Students will utilize learning management systems and other technology as appropriate to the academic environment.

This course is an approved General Education course in the Arts and Humanities category. This course is also an approved General Education Diversity course. Please refer to the current CCBC Catalog for General Education course criteria and outcomes.