

# COMMON COURSE OUTLINE

ENGL 252

Studies in the Short Fiction

3 Semester hours

## The Community College of Baltimore County

### Description

#### **Studies in the Short Story**

Explores short fiction from diverse backgrounds; emphasizes literary research and critical writing.

Prerequisite: ENGL 101

### Overall Course Objectives

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

1. identify basic elements of short fiction (character, plot, exposition, symbolism, figurative language, point of view, etc.)
2. assess the ways in which the selected literature reflects and also contributes to its particular historical moment and cultural context;
3. engage in critical / collaborative discussion about a texts relevance to life today, and whether and how contemporary readers can benefit from it;
4. analyze the ways in which issues of culture, race, gender, and class shape works of literature;
5. identify different literary genres and periods as they have been traditionally defined, and discuss ways in which these definitions have been challenged;
6. write a well informed literary analysis using appropriate terminology and textual support;
7. access and apply relevant literary criticism found both in traditional sources and through the Internet;
8. work collaboratively on questions and problems related to the texts, and on developing and refining their written work.

### Major Topics

(to be revised at the discretion of the instructor)

- Archetypal considerations
- Feminist view points
- Psychological perspectives
- Social and historical outlooks

### Course Requirements

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

1. participate actively in class discussions
2. write at least two essays and take at least one exam with an essay component, for a total of not less than 2500 words. At least one essay will address issues of culture, race, class, and/or gender in short fiction
3. participate in at least two projects or in-class exercises that require collaborative work
4. present information orally to the class at least once during the semester

**Other Course Information**