

Common Course Outline

ENGL 254

CONTEMPORARY THEMES IN LITERATURE

3 Semester Hours

The Community College of Baltimore County

Description

Contemporary Themes in Literature

Explores a specific literary, social, or historical theme through selected readings—fiction, essays, letters, autobiography, poetry, and drama.

Prerequisite: ENGL 101

Overall Course Objectives

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

1. formulate an extended definition of the theme
2. analyze significant themes, attitudes and issues in the works studied
3. analyze literary presentations of the themes as they emerge from the works studied
4. evaluate aesthetic, social and moral issues as they emerge from the works studied
5. demonstrate the ways in which their views of the issues have changed in response to the works studied.

Major Topics

- theme in literature
- social and moral dimensions of literature
- literary analysis
- evaluation of literature
- writing about literature

Course Requirements

Individual writing assignments will be determined by the instructor and will be described in the syllabus for each section. However, all students will:

1. participate actively in class discussions
2. write essays totaling at least 2500 words.

Other Course Information

The final grade will be based on the students' writing, graded either cumulatively or in an end-of-the-course portfolio.

(254 Common Course Outline 9-25-00)