

Common Course Outline
ENGL 262
Introduction to Modern Arabic Literature in Translation
3 Credits

The Community College of Baltimore County

Description

ENGL 262 – Introduction to Modern Arabic Literature in Translation examines Arabic literature of the late 20th century within the context of literary and historical traditions, decolonization, and emergent social and political movements. Students develop a familiarity with the techniques of literary analysis, understanding how Arab writers from diverse regions reflect, shape, and contest the values of their society, and examining the ways that gender, race, class, and conflict inform the poetry, fiction, and other cultural products of the modern Arab world. Readings and discussions will be conducted in English.

3 Credits

Prerequisite: successful completion of ENGL 101 with a “C” or better.

Overall Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

1. analyze texts on the basis of the social and historical political development of the Arab world in the late 20th and 21st centuries;
2. demonstrate a familiarity with works from various genres and from various parts of the Arab world;
3. demonstrate an understanding of the ways that traditional literary genres have been transformed in an era of decolonization, conflict, and modernization;
4. evaluate the ways in which the readings reflect, but also contribute to their particular historical moment and cultural and religious context;
5. analyze the ways that the search for personal and cultural identity relate to projects of change in the political and social spheres;
6. demonstrate an understanding of the ways in which issues of race, gender, and class shape works of literature;
7. formulate an extended definition of the various themes in modern Arabic literature;
8. evaluate aesthetic, social, and moral issues as they are portrayed in the works studied;
9. demonstrate an understanding of the literary techniques and devices that are used within the works;
10. evaluate contemporary forms of cultural expression from the Arab world through multimedia sources that serve to supplement the primary course text(s);
11. create well-informed literary analyses using appropriate terminology and textual support;

12. incorporate appropriate academic sources into essays by summarizing, quoting, and paraphrasing ethically and correctly; cite sources according to the assigned formatting and style guide;
13. utilize learning management systems (e.g. Blackboard) as appropriate to the academic environment; and
14. utilize appropriate technology to convey stylistically correct presentations.

Major Topics

- I. Introduction to Islam and religious pluralism
- II. Ottoman Empire, Sykes-Picot, and British colonialism
- III. Colonialism and the Arab-Israel conflict
- IV. Decolonization, Arab nationalism, and secularism
- V. Modernism and the evolution of Arab poetry
- VI. The rise of the Arab novel
- VII. The rise of the Arab short story
- VIII. The Palestinian cultural renaissance
- IX. Arab feminism and women's literature
- X. Protest and war literature
- XI. Working class poetry and the oral tradition
- XII. Global influences: youth culture in the hip-hop/social media generation

Course Requirements

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

- Participate in class discussions and/or online exchanges through established chat rooms, discussion boards, list serves, or other instructor-determined platform;
- Write at least three short literary analysis essays with appropriate academic sources, for a total of not less than 3500 words
- Take a minimum of 3 reading quizzes;
- Collaborate with peers on a project that will be presented to the class;
- Multiple assignments will infuse CCBC General Education Program objectives, and at least one assignment worth a minimum 10% of the total course grade will allow students to demonstrate at least five 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.

Written Assignments: Students are required to use appropriate academic resources.

Other Course Information

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

Date Revised: 04/05/2016