

CUYAMACA COLLEGE
COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD

English 122 – Introduction to Literature

3 hours lecture, 3 units

Catalog Description

Introduces literature through the reading, analysis and discussion of various genres such as myths, folktales, essays, short stories, poems, plays and novels. Literature encompasses different time periods and a variety of authors from around the world. Students will use the literature to write critical and appreciative essays.

Prerequisite

“C” grade or higher or “Pass” in ENGL C1000 (formerly ENGL 120) or ESL 122 or equivalent

Entrance Skills

Without the following skills, competencies and/or knowledge, students entering this course will be highly unlikely to succeed:

- 1) Critically read and analyze a text at the college level.
- 2) Write college level essays which include an introduction, conclusion, thesis statement, support and include information taken from sources; MLA format.

Course Content

- 1) Study aspects of the major literary genres: short story, drama, poetry (novels, essays, myths, folklore may be added)
- 2) Read prose, poetry, plays, etc., from a wide range of time periods by authors of both sexes and variety of cultural perspectives
- 3) Learn to analyze literature using genre theory and major literary themes
- 4) Write critical (analytical) and/or appreciative essays of different lengths and varying intensity, in and out of the classroom, in reaction to the works read in the course
- 5) Study basic literary vocabulary dealing with genres and analysis of literature
- 6) Learn basics of critical theory and how it helps us understand and/or appreciate different aspects of literary works

Course Objectives

Students will be able to:

- 1) Identify and evaluate the different literary genres and their respective properties in order to identify the value and roles of literature.
- 2) Identify major literary themes in prose, poetry and plays in order to understand and/or appreciate different aspects of literary works.
- 3) Utilize basic literary vocabulary in writings and discussion in order to identify the value and roles of literature.
- 4) Read and analyze prose, poetry and plays written in a minimum of three centuries (two of which must be before the 20th century) and from a minimum of three continents. Identify literal, symbolic and inferred meaning supporting by information in these texts.
- 5) Write organized, coherent, developed, and largely error-free critical (analytical) and/or appreciative essays which properly cite sources per MLA methodology and avoid plagiarism, in and out of the classroom, in reaction to the works read in the course.
- 6) Articulate orally and in writing the value and roles of literature in human civilization.

Method of Evaluation

A grading system will be established by the instructor and implemented uniformly. Grades will be based on demonstrated proficiency in subject matter determined by multiple measurements for evaluation, one of which must be essay exams, skills demonstration or, where appropriate, the symbol system.

- 1) Exams (written or oral) where students accurately identify the different literary genres and their respective properties; distinguish major literary themes in prose, poetry and plays; use basic literary vocabulary in writings and discussion; read and analyze prose, poetry and plays and interpret literal, symbolic and inferred meaning; write critical (analytical) and/or appreciative essays in reaction to the works read in the course, and/or identify the value and roles of literature.
- 2) In-class/outside class essays and a more lengthy literary analysis paper using outside sources and MLA format where students accurately identify the different literary genres and their respective properties; distinguish major literary themes in prose, poetry and plays; use basic literary vocabulary in writings and discussion; read and analyze prose, poetry and plays and interpret literal, symbolic and inferred meaning; write critical (analytical) and/or appreciative essays in reaction to the works read in the course.
- 3) Reading journals where students accurately identify the different literary genres and their respective properties; distinguish major literary themes in prose, poetry and plays; use basic literary vocabulary in writings and discussion; read and analyze prose, poetry and plays and interpret literal, symbolic and inferred meaning; and identify the place of literature in human society.
- 4) Participation in small group and whole class discussions where students accurately identify the different literary genres and their respective properties; distinguish major literary themes in prose, poetry and plays; use basic literary vocabulary in writings and discussion; read and analyze prose, poetry and plays and interpret literal, symbolic and inferred meaning; and discuss the role of literature.

Special Materials Required of Student

Collegiate dictionary

Minimum Instructional Facilities

Smart classroom

Method of Instruction

- 1) Lecture and discussion
- 2) Small group discussion, exercises
- 3) Peer commentary
- 4) Journals
- 5) Response papers
- 6) Essays
- 7) Literary analysis paper
- 8) Oral presentations
- 9) Self-assessment

Out-of-Class Assignments

- 1) Assigned readings (in a variety of genres)
- 2) Research and prepare a presentation about a specific author or short piece of fiction or a poem
- 3) Read and annotate various works (prose, poetry, plays)
- 4) Write a critical essay about an assigned reading (or a series of assigned readings)

Texts and References

- 1) Required (representative examples, select one):
 - a. *Introduction to Literature*. Elumen Learning, 2020. [Online Educational Resource]
 - b. Mays, Kelly. *The Norton Introduction to Literature*, Shorter 13th edition. Norton, 2018.

- c. Meyer, Michael. *The Bedford Introduction to Literature*, 11th edition. Macmillian Learning, 2016.
 - d. Kennedy, Kennedy, Gioia and Stone. *Literature: An Introduction to Fiction, Poetry, Drama, and Writing*, 14th edition. Pearson, 2020.
- 2) Supplemental: short stories, one or more novels, poems, and one or more plays selected by instructor.

Exit Skills

Students having successfully completed this course exit with the following skills, competencies and/or knowledge:

- 1) Identify the different literary genres and their respective properties.
- 2) Distinguish major literary themes in prose, poetry and plays.
- 3) Use basic literary vocabulary in writings and discussion.
- 4) Read and analyze prose, poetry and plays and discuss literal, symbolic and inferred meaning.
- 5) Write critical (analytical) and/or appreciative essays of different lengths and of varying intensity, in and out of the classroom, in reaction to the works read.

Student Learning Outcomes

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

- 1) Use literary terminology and basic critical theory to discuss, analyze, synthesize, and interpret literary works in various genres.
- 2) Write evidence-based literary analyses of literature, which demonstrate close reading skills, interpretive skills, logical reasoning, and argumentative strategies.
- 3) Apply the concepts discussed in the course to everyday life by analyzing how literary texts challenge, expand upon, and/or reinforce our ideas about real world social/cultural issues, and our personal or professional lives.