

ENG 205: Women in Literature

Instructor: Mrs. Cheryl Metcalf

Course Overview

ENG 205: Women in Literature is designed to survey of women and their contributions to literature from an historical, critical, and thematic perspective. The course focus will be on the stories, poems, and plays from the Middle Ages and the Renaissance, the Seventeenth and Eighteenth centuries, the Nineteenth century, and through the turn of the century. The course will focus of each literary section and the significant historical phase of women writers.

Reading and Writing Assignments

Reading Assignments run continuously throughout the course. An important element for understanding discussions, lectures, and writing assignments is a dedication by students to critically read all assignments on time. Short cuts to reading, such as viewing a movie, reading explanatory notes, or other vices in replacement of accomplishing the actual reading assignments, will set the student up for failure.

Writing Assignments will coincide with all readings. Students will write an evaluation of the works from women writers over four literary periods. Students are expected to proofread, revise, and edit all work before submitting the final draft for grading. Students may inquire peer editing but all work must be the student's original work. All papers must adhere to current Modern Language Association style for documentation. A final writing project will combine and complete the writing requirements.

Classroom Discussions

Classroom Discussions will be an engagement of ideas among students with facilitating direction from the instructor. Students are required to complete all reading assignments and notetaking in this course to be prepared for effective classroom discussions. Prepared classroom discussions are an important element for effective communication.

Course Rationale

Basic awareness of literature is a characteristic of the educated individual. Through exposure to the outstanding women authors and works of our English literary heritage, students gain understanding of historical struggle, psychological impact, sociological influences, human resources, and cultural diversity contributed and influenced by women writers. In addition, the skills acquired in this course will help to prepare students for the

nuance of communication in the field of literature. In relation to EGCC's college-wide outcomes, this course incorporates activities, assignments, and exercises that develop and improve students' language literacy and cultural literacy.

Teaching Methods, Aids, and Equipment

Several methods of teaching techniques will be used during the course. These include written lectures, tests, discussion, practice writing, formal assignments, and collaborative work. Student access to the Internet will be required and an online device that has use of Microsoft Office is needed. Textbooks, handouts, novel(s) will be either made available or assigned to acquire previous to needed use.

Student Responsibilities

1. Completing quizzes and assignments.
2. Being prepared for classroom discussions.
3. Regularly check-in to the classroom website for any updates
4. Submit work via online www.metcalffclassroom.com when required
5. Present clean, neat work that adheres to the requirements.

Course Outcomes

1. Ability to assess and articulate personal responses to literary texts.
2. Acquisition of familiarity with the structures and devices of literary texts.
3. Advanced skill in writing clearly about literary texts, using appropriate textual evidence.
4. Awareness of the discussions and discourses of those who are expert in analyzing and critiquing literary texts.
5. Developed understanding of the many ways human beings respond to life experiences and give meaning to these experiences through literature and art.

Course Objectives

1. Gain overall knowledge of several genres of literature: short story, poetry, plays, and novels.
2. Improve general ability to comprehend, appreciate and enjoy literature.
3. Develop an ability to compose literary analyses of assigned material.
4. Gain skill in participating in discussion activities.
5. Communicate through the written, spoken, and visual expression.

Assessments

1. Read assigned selections on reading list, interpreting meaning, and engaging in discussion.
2. Complete in-class activities as assigned.
3. Complete tests as assigned.
4. Complete written assignments as assigned.
- 5.

Please note that an assignment from this course may be used to assess Eastern Gateway Community College's general education outcomes.

Course Planner

First Week

The course opens with focus on the literature from the Middle Ages and the Renaissance. Students will read several works and respond with a study in the relevance to history, psychology, and sociology. The reading and analyzing of works from women authors from the Middle Ages and the Renaissance will follow with classroom discussion, frequent quizzes, and written assignments. Additional short stories will follow with similar assessments.

Second Week

The course will continue the second week with a focus on the literature from the Seventeenth and Eighteenth centuries. Once again students will read several works and respond with a study in the relevance to history, psychology, and sociology. The reading and analyzing of works from women authors from the Seventeenth and Eighteenth centuries will follow with classroom discussion, frequent quizzes, and written assignments. Additional short stories will follow with similar assessments.

Third Week

The course will continue the third week with a focus on the literature from the Nineteenth century. Once again students will read several works and respond with a study in the relevance to history, psychology, and sociology. The reading and analyzing of works from women authors from the Nineteenth century will follow with classroom discussion, frequent quizzes, and written assignments. Additional short stories will follow with similar assessments.

Fourth Week

The course will continue the third week with a focus on the literature from the the turn of the century. Once again students will read several works and respond with a study in the relevance to history, psychology, and sociology. The reading and analyzing of works from women authors from the turn of the century will follow with classroom

discussion, frequent quizzes, and written assignments. Additional short stories will follow with similar assessments.

Final Exam

Course Materials

Gilbert, Sandra M., and Susan Gubar. *The Norton Anthology of Literature by Women: the Tradition in English*. W.W. Norton, 1985.

Course Policies

Papers are due and accepted before/on the “due date.” Papers will not be graded after the given “due date” regardless of excused or unexcused absence. Any papers received after the due date will be given 50% of the given credit for the assignment with no critique or evaluation of the work. Students are responsible for all material covered in class; quizzes are unannounced. All papers must be typed.

Student Evaluation

Grading Policy

90 – 100 = A

80 – 89 = B

70 – 79 = C

60 – 69 = D

0 – 59 = F

Late work = 50 %

Plagiarized work will result in a failing grade and possible expulsion from the course. All academic dishonestly will be documented.

Contact Information

Students may contact me in person in Room 314 or online by posting a “Question” on the classroom website www.metcalffclassroom.com. In addition I can be reached by emailing me at teacher@metcalffclassroom.com or cmetcalf@scsohio.org or by calling (740) 282-9741 ext, 1314.

The above syllabus is subject to change based upon the instructor’s discretion.