

Course Outline

ENG 251: African American Literature

SECTION I

SUBJECT AREA AND COURSE NUMBER: Eng 251

COURSE TITLE: African American Literature

COURSE CATALOG DESCRIPTION: This course is a survey of African American Literature from various movements, from the slave narrative to contemporary African American authors. Literary works will be selected from various genres including: slave narratives, poetry, fiction, drama, criticism, and philosophy.

LECTURE HOURS PER WEEK: 3

CREDIT HOURS: 3

PREREQUISITES: English 102

SECTION II

A. SCOPE: This course is a survey of literature by African American authors. Students will read, analyze, write about, and present on work from a variety of genres including the slave narrative, poetry, fiction, and drama from the earliest published work to the present day. Students will survey African-American literary movements and note how they interact with and reflect upon historical movements. Students will also analyze connections between African American literatures and other African American artistic forms of expression, i.e., music, dance and the visual arts.

B. REQUIRED WORK: Students must complete readings as assigned. The course consists of lectures, discussion, small group projects, and media presentations. Students are required to be present for and to participate in these activities. Assessments include exams, essays oral presentations, and a final project.

C. ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION: Students are expected to attend all classes and participate in the discussions and class activities. The professor will be available for individual consultation during scheduled office hours and during in-class conference times.

D. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION: Will vary according to instructor, but may include and not be limited to discussions, lectures, peer work, field trips and project oriented collaborative learning activities. This course may use Blackboard.

E. OBJECTIVES, OUTCOMES, AND ASSESSMENT:

ENG 251 meets the following **Designated General Education Core Competencies:**

Aesthetic Dimensions (AD)

Critical Analysis/Logical Thinking (CA)

Oral Communication in English (OC)

Written Communication (WC)

ENG 251 meets the Following **Embedded General Education Core Competencies:**

Historical Knowledge (HK)

LEARNING OBJECTIVES	LEARNING OUTCOMES	ASSESSMENT METHODS
To demonstrate an understanding of:	Student will:	As measured by:
Responsibility for one's own learning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend class regularly and on time • Participate in class activities and discussions • Complete all individual and class projects • Read all assigned material • Initiate and complete make-up work (if permitted) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • attendance records • class discussion • quizzes/in class writings, journals • assignment records, including timely drafts
Aesthetic Dimensions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply key concepts, terminology and methodologies in the analysis of literary arts • Identify a specific body of literature within historical, social, political, cultural and aesthetic contexts • Articulate how literary works respond to and influence societies and cultures, ethically, politically and historically • Critically analyze African American oral and written texts. • Engage with literary works through other media: e.g. film, drama, concerts, lectures or readings (AD 1-5) (HK 3, 5) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • class discussions • oral reports • written assignments • examinations <p>Indications in Research Essays and Literary Analysis Essays that students have related the works to literary trends, cultural/socio-political events, historical conditions in a meaningful way</p>
Critical Analysis and Logical Thinking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate competence in argumentation, assessing different viewpoints and compiling well-reasoned analysis of literary works • Examine, analyze, interpret and evaluate a variety of literary themes or a specific theme in depth • Synthesize literary perspectives into a coherent, well-reasoned interpretation of given works • Explore issues of political, racial, ethnic and gender identity in literary works 	<p>Evidence in Literary Analysis Essays of students applying sound written argument strategies.</p> <p>Demonstration in the papers that students have considered multiple perspectives, evaluated and synthesized a range of literary possibilities</p>

	(CA 1-5)	
Written and Oral Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compose unified, effectively developed, coherent essays and oral presentations that respond to rhetorical situations by identifying audience and purpose • Effectively respond and adapt to audience verbal and non-verbal feedback during oral presentations • Draft essays and presentations in order to understand the writing process from generating ideas to editing • Formulate effective communication strategies to present arguments on appropriate literary subjects in both written and oral formats • Craft logical literary arguments, apply standard language conventions, effective writing and presentation strategies, appropriate sources, and MLA research systems of documentation. • Apply sound principles for creating effective support material for oral presentations (e.g. poster, PowerPoint, Prezi) <p>(WC 1-5; OC 1-5)</p>	<p>Essays and oral presentation material will show student understanding of MLA documentation formatting</p> <p>Evidence in the Essays and oral presentations that students understand thesis, support, and documentation.</p> <p>Essays and oral presentations show understanding of conventional grammar structures</p> <p>Drafts of essays/presentations indicate a knowledge of the writing process – prewriting/writing/editing</p>
Historical and Global Perspectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain and recognize issues of diversity and ethics raised in the literature, particularly regarding diverse African cultures in diaspora converging in the United States • Examine cross cultural, global perspectives relevant to the literature and its impact on issues of identity and community • Consider how historical movements impact contemporary culture and how African American literature reflect this • Analyze major historical and political issues and events that 	<p>Indications in Research Essays and Literary Analysis Essays that students have related the works to socio-political events or conditions in a meaningful way</p> <p>Where relevant students have demonstrated in the papers knowledge of racial/ethnic/gender/class factors important to the works read.</p>

	<p>influence the selected writers and their works by examining various types of historical sources such as newspapers, primary documents, both popular and academic. (HK 3,4, 5)</p>	<p>Participation in Class Activities and Discussions</p>
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Core Competency Assessment Artifact(s):

Assignments from this course that address learning outcomes noted above may be collected to assess student learning across the college.

F. TEXT(S) AND MATERIALS: College-level African American literature anthology, and/or novels, plays, books of poetry.

G. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: Basic knowledge of the use of computers to write papers as well as on-line search and use of library databases and internet resources, and familiarity with electronic course instruction platform. Extent of use of information technology will vary by instructor.