

ENG 261
WORLD LITERATURE I

Prerequisites: ENG 112 or ENG 113

Corequisites: None

This course introduces selected works from the Pacific, Asia, Africa, Europe, and the Americas from their literary beginnings through the seventeenth century. Emphasis is on historical background, cultural context, and literary analysis of selected prose, poetry, and drama. Upon completion, students should be able to interpret, analyze, and respond to selected works. *This course has been approved to satisfy the Comprehensive Articulation Agreement for the general education core requirement in humanities/fine arts.* Course Hours Per Week: Class, 3. Semester Hours Credit, 3.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Students will be able to do the following:

- a. Discuss the works of major world writers in the context of literary, historical, cultural, and intellectual movements such as the Ancient Period, Middle Period, and Early Modern Period (to 1800);
- b. Examine distinctions between sacred and secular texts;
- c. Examine the forging of ethnic and cultural identities as revealed in world texts;
- d. Discuss artistic structure shared by literary works from different cultures and periods;
- e. Trace the development of specific themes and genres of literature;
- f. Analyze literary works for their aesthetic features and thematic patterns;
- g. Identify styles, themes, and works of major writers;
- h. Understand and apply a variety of critical approaches to literature;
- i. Understand critical and popular reception of literature of this period;
- j. Communicate critical insights about world literature in writing and orally.

OUTLINE OF INSTRUCTION:

- I. Overview of issues in western literature
 - A. Cultural, intellectual, religious, and historic background
 - B. Sacred and secular texts
 - C. Genres and literary movements
 - D. Tradition and development of national literatures
 - E. Themes and styles in world literature
- II. The Ancient Period
 - A. Cultural, intellectual, religious, and historic context
 - B. Literary characteristics

- III. The Middle Period
 - A. Cultural, intellectual, religious, and historic context
 - B. Literary characteristics

- IV. The Early Modern Period
 - A. Cultural, intellectual, religious, and historic context
 - B. Literary characteristics

- V. Selected authors and works
 - A. Biographic overview
 - B. Critical and popular reception
 - C. Stylistic and thematic characteristics
 - D. Contribution to national and world literature

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS AND MATERIALS:

Texts to be selected by instructor

STATEMENT FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Students who require academic accommodations due to any physical, psychological, or learning disability are encouraged to request assistance from a disability services counselor within the first two weeks of class. Likewise, students who potentially require emergency medical attention due to any chronic health condition are encouraged to disclose this information to a disability services counselor within the first two weeks of class. Counselors can be contacted by calling 686-3652 or by visiting the Student Development Office in the Phail Wynn Jr. Student Services Center, room 1309.