

Course Abstract

If you need accommodations due to a disability, contact Disability Services in Edison Hall Room 100, 732.906.2546.

To foster a productive learning environment, the College requires that all students adhere to the Code of Student Conduct which is published in the college catalog and website.

Course ID and Name: ENG 221: English Literature I

Department: English

Chairperson or Course Coordinator: Michael Nester

Office Location: RH 236

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Prerequisites: ENG 122 or 125 or permission of the department chairperson

Co-requisites:

Course Description: Works by major authors in English literature from the Anglo- Saxon period through 1789 are read and analyzed. Authors studied include the Beowulf poet, Chaucer, Shakespeare, Milton, the metaphysical poets, Swift and Blake.

General Education Status: Humanities

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Lab Hours: 0

Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of the program or course, students will be able to:

1. Interpret and analyze literature and justify their responses orally and in writing.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the formal features of literary texts and a knowledge of contexts.
3. Demonstrate the ability to paraphrase, summarize, and respond to texts by composing, through a series of drafts, coherent, persuasive, developed, and grammatical essays; compose research papers demonstrating the ability to analyze, evaluate, and synthesize source materials and to cite this information correctly.
4. Read and be able to discuss selections of representative authors from the beginnings to 1789, including but not limited to Beowulf Poet, The Pearl Poet (Gawain), Marlowe, Chaucer, Shakespeare, Donne, Jonson, the metaphysical poets, Milton, Dryden, Pope, Johnson and Swift.
5. Identify and discuss changes in writing style and content that accompanies cultural, scientific and political changes as appropriate to a survey course.

Course Content Areas:

1. **Research and writing:** Two research essays based on primary and secondary sources and using most recent MLA documentation style. A midterm and final examination requiring the writing of essays that make close reference to the literature studied.
2. **Reading:** Major works of Anglo-Saxon, Medieval, and Renaissance literature such as the following: short Anglo-Saxon works, *Beowulf*, *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, selections from Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*, *Everyman*, selections from Spenser's *Faery Queene*, Marlowe's *Dr. Faustus*, selections from Shakespeare's sonnets, Shakespearean drama, selections from the Metaphysical poets including Donne and Marvell, selections from Milton's *Paradise Lost*, and selections from Dryden, Pope, and Swift.
3. **Lecture/Discussion:**
 - a. Major literary, intellectual, and historical developments, movements, and trends as seen in Anglo-Saxon, Medieval and Renaissance English literature.
 - b. Genres, themes, character types, motifs, archetypes and/or other basic concerns important to a basic but adequate understanding and appreciation of the literature under consideration.
 - c. Literary devices such as plot, theme, point of view, character development, tone, setting, prosody and/or figurative language to the degree that each affects the literature in which it is found.