

# 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 225: World Literature I**

### **Department: English**

Chairperson or Course Coordinator: Michael Nester

Office Location: RH236

E-mail Address: [MNester@middlesexcc.edu](mailto:MNester@middlesexcc.edu)

Telephone: 732.548.6000 x3585

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

**Co-requisites:**

**Course Description:** An introduction to masterpieces of world literature to 1600. A variety of cultural, intellectual, historical and literary perspectives are explored in selections by authors from Asia, Africa, and Continental Europe. Students complete reading, writing, and research assignments designed to develop the skills of literary interpretation and analysis.

**General Education Status:** Humanities, Diversity

**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 representative works of the world's literature in translation from the times of the ancient peoples to the 1500s.
5. Identify and discuss changes in writing style and content that accompanied cultural, scientific and political changes, as appropriate to a survey course.
6. Discuss the importance of global perspectives and diverse peoples.

### **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 world literature such as the following: 1)The ancient world from *Gilgamesh* and from Homer's *Iliad* and *Odyssey*; Aeschylus' *Agamemnon*; from the *Old Testament*; from the *Bhagavad-Gita* and *Valmiki's Ramayana*; from *Virgil's Aeneid* and Ovid's *Metamorphosis*, and from the *New Testament*). 2)The Middle Ages (from Dante's *Inferno*; from Boccaccio's *Decameron*; poets of the T'ang Dynasty; from Murasaki Shikibu's *The Tale of Genji*; from *One Thousand and One Nights*. 3)The Renaissance (from Petrarch's sonnets, from Machiavelli's *Prince*, from Rabelais' *Gargantua and Pantagruel*, and from Cervantes' *Don Quixote*).

**3. Lecture/Discussion:**

- a. Major literary, intellectual, cultural and historical developments, movements, and trends.
- 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.