

ENG 203 MAJOR THEMES IN LITERATURE

Syllabus

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COURSE CREDIT:

Three Semester Hours

PREREQUISITES:

None

COURSE MATERIALS:

Required Textbook:

Henderson, Gloria, William Day, Sandra Waller, ed. *Literature and Ourselves: a Thematic Introduction for Readers and Writers*, fifth edition. Longman, 2006.
ISBN: 0321277139

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is designed to expose students to a variety of literatures and to develop critical and effective thinking, reading, and writing skills. In this course, students will read literature from three major genres: poetry, short stories, and drama. The students will learn basic literary terms and different approaches to literature. Students will come to understand that major human concerns are depicted by literature across time and cultures. There will be units on the following themes: family, men and women, human vulnerability, freedom and responsibility, and quest.

COURSE OBJECTIVES/STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Students will be able to:

- understand, appreciate, and communicate about literature and its enhancement of American and World culture
- understand their place within a multicultural environment
- read with comprehension and clarity

- think and write critically
- broaden their artistic and ideological perspectives
- define fundamental literary terms
- recognize major human concerns as depicted in literature

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

The student will complete reading assignments and write five reaction papers. There will be two proctored exams, including essay questions on the unit themes. The essay questions will be modeled after the ones at the end of each unit in your textbook. The midterm must be completed within two hours and the final within three hours.

GRADE DISTRIBUTION AND SCALE:

In alignment with ASC academic policies, no D may apply to a major or minor field.

Grade Distribution:

Reaction papers	50%
Midterm Exam	20%
<u>Final Exam</u>	<u>30%</u>
Total	100%

Scale:

900-1000 points	A
800-899 points	B
700-799 points	C
600-699 points	D
599 points and below	F

COURSE INSTRUCTIONS

The student will be required to write a short reaction paper on each unit studied. This paper needs to be one to two pages in length, double-spaced, and typed. Each paper should relate the theme studied to at least one selection of poetry, one selection of short fiction, and one selection of drama. Personal insights and responses to the reading selections are encouraged. Any questions or comments about the readings are welcome and will be answered when each reaction paper is returned.