

Summer 2020

AP/EN 1001 3.0B (SU)

An Introduction to Literary Study

Course Director:

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Delivery Format:

Fully Online

Time:

N/A

Description:

An introduction to the study of, and writing about, literature. Through short readings (essays, stories, poems and plays), students learn to observe, understand and evaluate how literary texts work. Through specific attention to the technical language of literature, the mechanics of writing and the preparation of an essay, students learn to write effectively about literature.

In looking at the works of literature on the course, we shall focus on considering different genres and sub genres, and on developing close reading skills. Genres discussed include narrative essay; essay of literary criticism/ theory; lyric poem (including sonnet, ode, elegy, love poem); ballad; tale; short story; tragedy; comedy; verse drama; and prose drama. Close reading includes examining how textual meaning and the reader's reactions are shaped by such elements of style as word choice, sentence structure, figures of speech, figures of rhetoric, and (for works written in verse) rhythm and rhyme. There will also be some contextualization of works of literature in the societies and cultures in which they are produced.

Writing skills covered in the course include issues such as basic essay organization, thesis formation, and outlining, particularly in as these skills relate to writing about literature. We shall also focus on three types of conceptual activities which help shape individual essays: analysis of cause and effect, comparison, and use of secondary sources. Students are also expected to write a research essay and we shall discuss how to find good research sources and the use of primary sources and secondary sources in an essay on literature.

Category:

N/A

Historical Requirement:

N/A

Requirements:

300-word cause and effect (causal analysis) essay (10%); 700-word comparison essay (14%); 1250-word essay using secondary sources (25%)—either the comparison essay or the essay using secondary sources must be on a designated research topic; two research exercises (5% each); best 7 out of 10 discussion forums (21%: 3% each); final examination (20%)

Reading List:

selections from Robert Scholes et al., eds. *Elements of Literature* (Oxford, fifth Canadian edition)

William Shakespeare, *Macbeth* (Signet Classics)

course kit

pdf file on the course website

Open To:

YR 1, 2