



Western Technical College

20801204 Introduction to Literature (Liberal Arts/Transfer Course)

Course Outcome Summary

Course Information

Description	Recommended as a first course in literary analysis, this course introduces students to the major genres of literature and addresses issues related to writing about literature and/or other texts.
Career Cluster	Collegiate Transfer
Instructional Level	College Parallel
Total Credits	3
Total Hours	54

Pre/Corequisites

Prerequisite 20801201 English 1 (OR) 10801136 English Comp 1

Textbooks

Introduction to Literature Course Guide (Amery Bodelson). <https://westernnc.libguides.com/IntroLitAmery> – or
– Introduction to Literature Course Guide (Andy Skemp). <https://westernnc.libguides.com/IntroLitAndy>

Success Abilities

1. Cultivate Passion: Increase Self-Awareness
2. Refine Professionalism: Act Ethically
3. Refine Professionalism: Improve Critical Thinking
4. Refine Professionalism: Participate Collaboratively
5. Refine Professionalism: Practice Effective Communication

Course Competencies

1. Demonstrate critical reading skills.

Assessment Strategies

- 1.1. Written Product
- 1.2. Written Objective Test

Criteria

You will know you are successful when

- 1.1. you use active reading techniques.
- 1.2. you identify distinct literary components while reading literary works.
- 1.3. you pose questions while reading.
- 1.4. you provide analytical responses to literary works.

Learning Objectives

- 1.a. Employ active reading techniques including annotation, outlining, and summary
- 1.b. Identify author, audience, and purpose of various literary texts
- 1.c. Formulate questions and opinions while reading
- 1.d. Identify specific textual details and patterns while reading
- 1.e. Explain the meaning of details and patterns identified

2. Use literary terminology effectively.

Assessment Strategies

- 2.1. Essay
- 2.2. Written Product

Criteria

You will know you are successful when

- 2.1. you identify literary terminology associated with each genre: poetry, fiction, and drama.
- 2.2. you apply knowledge of literary terminology when responding to various works.
- 2.3. you accurately use literary terminology when responding to works.
- 2.4. you incorporate literary terminology when interpreting and analyzing works.

Learning Objectives

- 2.a. Describe the difference between poetry, fiction, and drama
- 2.b. Identify literary terminology associated with each genre
- 2.c. Identify deviant or innovative traits of various works using literary terminology
- 2.d. Use knowledge of literary terminology to interpret and analyze literature

3. Analyze literature.

Assessment Strategies

- 3.1. Essay
- 3.2. Written Product

Criteria

You will know you are successful when

- 3.1. you divide a work into multiple literary components when developing an interpretation.
- 3.2. you describe how components of a work interact to create meaning.
- 3.3. you explain how the components of a work may be complementary and cohesive.
- 3.4. you explain how the components of a work may be contradictory and conflicting.

Learning Objectives

- 3.a. Use literary terminology to break a text into parts
- 3.b. Describe how the parts of a work interact
- 3.c. Use literary analysis in interpretative discussion and written work
- 3.d. Compose essays using literary analysis.

4. Interpret literature.

Assessment Strategies

- 4.1. Essay
- 4.2. Written Product
- 4.3. Written Objective Test

Criteria

You will know you are successful when

- 4.1. you identify a central message or important idea conveyed by a literary work.
- 4.2. you use textual evidence to support an interpretation.
- 4.3. you use separate components of a work to support an interpretation.
- 4.4. you articulate interpretations in discussion and written work.
- 4.5. you compose numerous written interpretations in essay form.

Learning Objectives

- 4.a. Provide responses to literature beyond simple summary and personal experience
- 4.b. Identify the meaning of various literary works
- 4.c. Use details from a work to develop an interpretation
- 4.d. Use analysis to develop an interpretation of a work
- 4.e. Identify complexities and ambiguities that challenge or undermine certain interpretations
- 4.f. Create multiple written interpretations that fulfill formal requirements of academic essay writing

5. Explore the reader's active role as an interpreter of literature.

Assessment Strategies

- 5.1. Written Product
- 5.2. Self Assessment

Criteria

You will know you are successful when

- 5.1. you explain how personal background influences the reading experience.
- 5.2. you self-consciously apply personal experience when reading and interpreting.
- 5.3. you identify certain common experiences that may influence interpretations of a work.
- 5.4. you acknowledge the benefits and limitations of drawing on personal experience when interpreting literature.

Learning Objectives

- 5.a. Describe how the reading process is as an active exchange
- 5.b. Provide a personal account of the reading experience
- 5.c. Express self awareness of the role of personal background in interpretation
- 5.d. Provide examples of how an individual's experiences shape his or her encounter with literature

6. Assess the role of culture in the creation of literature.

Assessment Strategies

- 6.1. Written Product
- 6.2. Essay

Criteria

You will know you are successful when

- 6.1. you describe major cultural trends and historical events at the time of a work's creation.
- 6.2. you identify the influence of certain trends and events on a work.
- 6.3. you identify historical items explicitly or implicitly referenced in a work.
- 6.4. you incorporate knowledge of contemporaneous trends and events when interpreting a work.

Learning Objectives

- 6.a. List important events unfolding at or near the time a work was authored
- 6.b. List commonly held beliefs and attitudes contemporary to a work's creation
- 6.c. Describe an author's encounters with or expressed views regarding the common attitudes and important events of the time
- 6.d. Identify instances in a literary work where events and beliefs of the time are referenced explicitly or implicitly
- 6.e. Use cultural and historical information to develop and support interpretations

7. Examine how literature can create and change culture.

Assessment Strategies

- 7.1. Written Product
- 7.2. Essay

Criteria

You will know you are successful when

- 7.1. you describe how literature may shape a reader's attitudes and beliefs.
- 7.2. you demonstrate appreciation for the history of readership.
- 7.3. you identify audience characteristics of various works.
- 7.4. you apply knowledge of readership when interpreting various works.

Learning Objectives

- 7.a. Explain the potential influence of literature on the reader
- 7.b. Describe important events in the history of print and the consumption of literature
- 7.c. Identify the intended audience of a literary work
- 7.d. Describe the publication, critical reception, popularity, and longevity of a literary work
- 7.e. Use knowledge of readership to develop an interpretation

8. Compare various critical approaches commonly used to interpret literature.

Assessment Strategies

- 8.1. Written Product
- 8.2. Essay

Criteria

You will know you are successful when

- 8.1. you identify basic conventions of common critical approaches used to interpret literature (formalism, deconstruction, Marxism, feminism, post-colonialism, etc.).
- 8.2. you identify advantages and limitations of common critical approaches.
- 8.3. you use common critical approaches when responding to literary works.
- 8.4. you use a certain critical approach to develop an interpretation of a work.

Learning Objectives

- 8.a. Describe foundational assumptions and frequent interpretive techniques of various critical theories
- 8.b. Identify strengths and shortcomings of particular critical approaches
- 8.c. Apply conventions of common critical approaches when responding to literary works
- 8.d. Develop an interpretation using a common critical theory

9. Characterize literature.

Assessment Strategies

- 9.1. Written Product
- 9.2. Written Objective Test
- 9.3. Self Assessment

Criteria

You will know you are successful when

- 9.1. you accurately incorporate literary terminology when characterizing literature.
- 9.2. you reflect on your academic encounters with literary texts when characterizing literature.
- 9.3. you synthesize assigned reading, writing, lecture and discussion when characterizing literature.
- 9.4. you recognize the complexities and challenges of characterizing literature.

Learning Objectives

- 9.a. Characterize literature in discussion and written exercises
- 9.b. Characterize literature using literary terminology
- 9.c. Incorporate experiences in the academic study of literature when characterizing literature
- 9.d. Incorporate personal reading experiences when characterizing literature