English (ENGL) 2700 British Literature 1 (3) CSU:UC

Prerequisite: Successful completion of English 1500 with a grade of ‘C’ or better.

Before entering the course the student should be able to:

1. Write good expository prose,
2. Read good prose intelligently,
3. Demonstrate techniques in library research and in writing a term paper,
4. Show competency in writing within the four modes of discourse: narration, description, exposition, persuasion,
5. Use diction and tone appropriate to a college-level audience,
6. Exhibit an understanding of connotation and denotation of meaning in context, and
7. Demonstrate understanding of grammar and mechanics.

Hours and Units Calculations: 48 hours lecture (96 outside of class hours) = 3 Units

Type of Class/Course: Degree Credit

Catalog Description: This course is a study of selected works of classic British literature up to the late eighteenth century. Representative writers may include Chaucer, Shakespeare, Spenser, Donne, Milton, Dryden, Pope, Swift, Johnson, and Boswell. This is a writing intensive class including four analytical argument essays of 4-6 pages. Course emphasizes investigating historical and cultural contexts, applying reasoned analysis, and comparing themes and structures of different texts. C-ID: ENGL 160


Selected British novels, plays, or poems can be required, per instructor.

Additional Instructional Materials: None

Course Objectives:

By the end of the course, a successful student will be able to:

1. Investigate historical and cultural contexts of literary works,
2. Support interpretations of literary texts with literary terminology and reasoned analysis,
3. Compare themes, content, and form of texts from different time periods while applying the knowledge of changing cultural and historical contexts,
4. Demonstrate an understanding of political, social, economic, and religious issues within British culture and relate these to literary texts,
5. Research and evaluate the credibility of secondary sources,
6. Synthesize secondary sources, into discussion and primary literary texts,
7. Apply critical thinking to literary interpretation and analysis, and
8. Demonstrate an understanding of appropriate academic discourse and the conventions of literary analysis.

Course Scope and Content:

Unit I  Critical Thinking
A. Claim, premise, evidence
B. Induction
C. Deduction
D. Inference
E. Assumption
F. Logical fallacies
G. Argumentative writing about literature

Unit II  Methodology
A. Literary interpretation
B. Literary analysis
C. Identification and application of cultural context
D. Evaluation of sources

Unit III  The Middle Ages (to ca. 1485)
A. Anglo-Saxon Literature
   1. The Dream of the Rood
   2. Beowulf
   3. Judith
   4. The Wife’s Lament
B. The Literature of Anglo-Norman England
   1. Beowulf and Marie De France
C. Middle English Literature in the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Centuries
   1. Sir Gawain and the Green Knight
   2. Chaucer
   3. William Langland
   4. Margery Kempe
   5. Sir Thomas Malory
D. Medieval English; Old and Middle English Prosody; Timeline

Unit IV  The Sixteenth Century (1485-1603)
A. Introduction, Timeline
B. More
C. Wyatt
D. Howard
E. Mary I
F. Lady Jane Grey
G. Mary, Queen of Scots
H. Queen Elizabeth
I. Ralegh
J. Sidney
K. Spenser
L. Marlowe
M. Nashe
N. Shakespeare
O. Selections from the English Bible

Unit V  The Early Seventeenth Century (1603-1660)
A. Introduction, Timeline
B. Donne
C. Lanyer
D. Jonson
E. Wroth
F. Bacon
G. Hobbes
H. Herbert
I. Herrick
J. Lovelace
K. Phillips
L. Marvell
M. Cavendish
N. Milton
O. Literary Terminology

Unit VI  The Restoration and the Eighteenth Century (1660-1785)
A. Introduction, Timeline
B. Dryden
C. Pepys
D. Locke
E. Wilmot
F. Behn
G. Swift
H. Pope
I. Haywood
J. Montagu
K. Ingram
L. Leopar
M. Hogarth
N. Boswell
O. Gray
P. Collins
Q. Cowper
R. Equiano
S. Burney

Note: specific authors selected here can be varied according to instructor’s professional prerogative.
Learning Activities Required Outside of Class:

The students in this class will spend a minimum of 6 hours per week outside of the regular class time doing the following:

1. Reading,
2. Homework,
3. Research, and
4. Writing.

Methods of Instruction:

1. Lecture,
2. Class discussions based on reading assignments,
3. Audiovisual presentations,
4. Group and individual panels and presentations.

Methods of Evaluation:

1. Non-essay writing assignments,
2. Essays,
3. Research paper using primary and secondary sources, and
4. Oral presentations

Supplemental Data:

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| Taft College General Education: | CSC2: CSU Area C2  
                               | IG3B: IGETC Area 3B  
                               | LES: Local Ethnic Studies  
                               | LHUM: Local GE Humanities  |