



South Central College

ENGL 208 African American Literature

Course Outcome Summary

Course Information

Description

Surveys African American literature, including short stories, poetry, novels and criticism. Students will be thoroughly acquainted with a scope of African American authors, poets and recognize their contributions to the contextual fabric of America. Students will explore many historical benchmarks within African American history such as slavery, the Reconstruction, the Harlem Renaissance, and the Civil Rights movement. This course will situate literary works within these historic and cultural contexts, but will also emphasize close readings of the texts.

Transfer Credit: MNTC GOAL AREA 6 & 7

Prerequisites: This course requires a passing grade in ENGL 100 or instructor permission

Total Credits 4

Total Hours 64

Types of Instruction

Instruction Type

Lecture

Credits/Hours

Pre/Corequisites

This course requires a passing grade in ENGL 100 or instructor permission

Institutional Core Competencies

Critical and Creative Thinking - Students will be able to demonstrate purposeful thinking with the goal of using a creative process for developing and building upon ideas and/or the goal of using a critical process for the analyzing and evaluating of ideas.

Cultural Competence - Students will be able to demonstrate an attitude of personal curiosity, a rising knowledge of cultures, and an evolving range of skills for living and working among others with other worldviews and ways of life.

Course Competencies

1. **Assess the ways in which the selected literature reflects and also contributes to its particular historical moment and cultural context**

Learning Objectives

Study certain aspects of African American history and culture.

Analyze the reflection of these historic and cultural elements in the literature of African Americans.

2. **Access and apply relevant literary criticism found both intraditional sources and through the internet.**

Learning Objectives

Access literary criticism

Apply this literary criticism to primary African American texts.

3. **Analyze the ways in which issues of race, gender, and class shape African American literature.**

Learning Objectives

Explore issues of race, gender and class in African American culture.

Identify themes of race, gender and class in African American literature

4. **Recognize the importance of the oral tradition in African American literature.**

Learning Objectives

Explain African American oral traditions.

Identify oral traditions within African American literature.

5. **Recognize the importance of the oral tradition in African American literature.**

Learning Objectives

Define the historical categories: slave narratives, Reconstruction literature, the Harlem Renaissance and modern writers.

Analyze the connection between these movements and African American literature.

6. **Discuss the connections between African American literature and political empowerment.**

Learning Objectives

Explore the various political movements in African American history.

Analyze the connection between these movements and African American literature.

7. **Place African American literature within the American literature canon.**

Learning Objectives

Define the American literature canon.

Delineate African American literature within this canon.

8. **Explain the effects of slavery on early African American writings.**

Learning Objectives

Discuss the history of African American slavery.

Analyze the effects of slavery within the African American literary traditions.

9. **Discuss the dynamics of Harlem Renaissance literature.**

Learning Objectives

Explain the characteristics of the Harlem Renaissance.

Define the role of the Harlem Renaissance in African American literature

10. **Analyze the role of musical traditions in African American literature: spirituals, the blues, jazz**

Learning Objectives

Define the various forms of African American music found in literature.

Identify musical references within African American literature.

11. **Analyze and articulate the students' attitudes, behaviors, and beliefs regarding diversity, racism, and bigotry in order to develop communication skills needed in a diverse society.**

Learning Objectives

Utilize African American literature to discuss and deconstruct these attitudes and beliefs.

Identify one's own attitudes and beliefs regarding race.

12. Analyze the impact of the Civil Rights movement on African American writings.

Learning Objectives

Explore the history of the Civil Rights movement in American history.

Analyze the role of this movement in African American literature.

SCC Accessibility Statement

South Central College strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you have a disability and need accommodations for access to this class, contact the Academic Support Center to request and discuss accommodations. North Mankato: Room B-132, (507) 389-7222; Faribault: Room A-116, (507) 332-7222.

Additional information and forms can be found at: www.southcentral.edu/disability

This material can be made available in alternative formats by contacting the Academic Support Center at 507-389-7222.