

INTRODUCTORY CORE COURSES

ENG 102 COMPOSITION II: Exploration of essay forms with particular attention to interpretation and argument; emphasis on analytical reading and writing, critical thinking, and research methodologies. [multi-stage research project that involves argumentation]

- Engage in critical reading and interpretation of a wide range of texts;
- Be able to summarize, analyze, synthesize, evaluate, and apply what they read—both orally and in writing;
- Frame complex research questions or problems;
- Demonstrate awareness of their own beliefs, concepts, and biases;
- **Be able to produce a coherent, well-supported argument that shows critical thinking and careful consideration of alternative viewpoints.**

CORE HUMANITIES 201, 202, 203: Basic tools of the humanities disciplines: clear writing, close reading of primary texts, practice with oral expression of serious ideas, awareness of modes of discourse, sensitivity to cultural differences, understanding and evaluating the past. [short answer exams, short critical papers]

- **Express ideas clearly and persuasively both orally and in writing, using relevant evidence to support their arguments.**
- Read, interpret, and analyze primary source texts with attention to content, historical and cultural context, genre, and language.
- Analyze authors' arguments by identifying perspectives, assumptions, strategies, and omissions.

MID-CURRICULUM “GATEWAY” COURSES

ENG 282 INTRODUCTION TO LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE: The forms and function of language with special application to literary study. [m/c or short answer/essay exams w/common or shared questions for all sections]

- analyze language on the phonetic, morphological and syntactic levels.
- identify and explain the various factors that produce language change and language variation.
- explain and apply the tools for analyzing semantic and syntactic meaning.

ENG 298 WRITING ABOUT LITERATURE: Introduction to literary study-- literary terms, genres, time periods, and analysis. [exams, reading responses, short critical papers on class readings of individual works, longer research paper on an individual work/class reading, using range of secondary sources]

- use critical and practical concepts to analyze a range of literary genres and works
- **compose** well-supported and coherent interpretative analyses of individual literary works based on close reading, using literary terminology appropriate to the various genres
- **critically evaluate** creative performances of literary works, including theatrical performances, film performances, and readings of poetry and/or fiction
- apply knowledge of the various genres of literature (poetry, drama, fiction)
- analyze literature in relation to historical context, tracing trends in the representation of gender, race, and class
- employ electronic and traditional resources for literary study.

ENG 303 INTRODUCTION TO LITERARY THEORY AND CRITICISM: Selected literary theories, varieties of criticism, and texts. [essay exams, short critical papers applying theories to interpret individual works, longer research paper applying theory or theories in interpretation of an individual work]

- apply critical thinking and writing about literature in oral and written forms.
- apply a range of critical theories about literature and the various approaches (e.g., Marxist, feminist, formalist, postcolonial) by which it can be analyzed.
- apply contemporary theory and criticism to texts.
- describe the concepts of culture, race, gender, and class as they related to literary analysis.
- explain the concept of canon formation.

SENIOR OR “CULMINATING” MAJOR COURSES

ENG 492B LANGUAGE, LITERATURE, AND CULTURE: Language and literature and their interrelationship with society and culture, with particular emphasis on literature written in English. (Major capstone course.) [short critical papers on class readings, one longer semester research paper focused on work(s) outside of class readings, using variety of secondary sources]

- analyze literary texts in their historical, critical, and theoretical contexts.
- engage with and apply critical and theoretical debates to the course's primary texts.
- **produce writing of a professional quality** that makes a contribution to the critical conversation.
- explain and assess the relationships between the language and culture of origin to a series of works or body of literature.