

# **COURSE OUTLINE**

## **FINE-101**

### **Humanities Through the Arts**

3 Semester Hours

## **HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

### **Description**

In this course, the humanities are approached through an interdisciplinary study of nine major art forms: film, theatre, music, dance, painting, sculpture, photography, architecture, and art in literature. Each of these art forms is considered from the perspectives of the meaning and form expressed. As a study of the creative process, a broad range of the various arts will be explored in class and/or on field trips. The challenge to the student in this course is to develop perceptual awareness and aesthetic sensitivity as well as a foundation for a life-long relationship with the arts regardless of his/her major field of study. (3 hours weekly)

### **Course Objectives**

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Apply critical skills for "seeing" and interpreting a work of art.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the interrelationships among the arts.
3. Formulate aesthetic judgments for determining what is art.
4. Raise and address fundamental questions repeatedly explored in the arts throughout history and apply original insights to these questions in written and in informal oral presentations.
5. Write clearly and critically about the arts.
6. Recognize and appreciate the work of individual artists.
7. Compare and contrast artists of different periods and how one artist may influence the work of another.
8. Demonstrate a keener awareness of value, self, and society, and how the arts influence that awareness.
9. Demonstrate an understanding how the arts reflect the human spirit in aesthetic forms.
10. Demonstrate how art reflects its time and then place the art and the time in historical perspective.

### **Major Topics**

1. Study of nine major art forms: painting, sculpture, architecture, theater, photography, dance, film, music and literature.
2. Guest lecturers: specialists in the arts. Classes are often augmented by audio-visual presentation.
3. Opportunity for students to critique works of art in various forms.

### **Course Requirements**

Specific assignments and procedures for evaluating student performance in the class (i.e., grading) will be determined by the individual faculty member, but will include the following:

1. Students will use writing as a means to learn, to integrate information, to review what they have learned, and to clarify their responses to assigned works.
2. Students will write at least two interpretive papers (one of which will be a critical analysis). The required papers will communicate with a specific audience and meet the minimum standard of proficiency for college level writing. Papers will be evaluated not only on content, but also on clarity of expression and style. (A total of at least 2500 words of formal, graded writing is required.)
3. At least 60% of the final grade will be based upon writing, both formal and informal.