

# COURSE OUTLINE

## ENGL-203 English Literature I 3 Semester Hours

### HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

#### Description

English Literature I examines language, ideas and political/cultural values in English literature from Anglo-Saxon times through the Renaissance and into the 1700s. Students read poetry, letters and drama, including works by Shakespeare, Swift and other important writers. Key motifs from the texts include history, ideology, and the evolving ideas about humanity and the rise of individualism. This course is writing intensive. Prerequisite: ENGL-121 or ENGL-101. (3 hours weekly)

#### Statement on General Education and Liberal Learning

A liberal education prepares students to lead ethical, productive, and creative lives and to understand how the pursuit of lifelong learning and critical thinking fosters good citizenship. General education courses form the core of a liberal education within the higher education curriculum and provide a coherent intellectual experience for all students by introducing the fundamental concepts and methods of inquiry in the areas of mathematics, the physical and natural sciences, the social sciences, the arts and the humanities, and composition. This course is part of the general education core experience at Howard Community College.

#### Overall Course Objectives

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

1. Recognize literary terms, concepts, critical strategies and stylistic characters in the texts studied.
2. Demonstrate critical and independent thinking in the interpretation of texts.
3. Write analytically about literary works, using appropriate research and documentation.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of ways the literature studied reflects its intellectual, social, historical, and cultural contexts.
5. Evaluate the power of literature to address personal values and goals and to challenge human endeavors.
6. Compare the writings of two past ages or compare the writing of the past with those of our times.
7. Describe the growth of language through the ages of Old, Middle, and Modern English.

#### Major Topics

- I. Anglo-Saxon Literature
  - Old English Poetry
  - Epic Poetry
- II. Middle English
  - Chaucer
- III. The Sixteenth Century
  - Drama: Shakespeare
  - Poetry
- IV. The Seventeenth Century
  - Major Poets, such as John Donne and John Milton

V. The Eighteenth Century

Satire

Essay

Poetry

**Course Requirements**

Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member but may include exams, papers and class participation. Specific writing assignments will require at least 2,500 words of formal academic writing, as well as informal in-class assignments to explore ideas and respond to class materials.

**Other Course Information**

This course is a Literature and Humanities core course and a Humanities, English, and Arts and Sciences elective.