

**COURSE OUTLINE**  
**ENGL-210**  
**Introduction to Fiction, Poetry, and Drama**  
**3 Semester Hours**

**HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**Description**

Introduction to Fiction, Poetry and Drama studies conventions and characteristics of these three genres of literature and is particularly recommended for students new to the study of literature. Students study terminology and literary concepts in order to interpret, analyze and critically evaluate selections from stories, poems and plays. In addition, they are introduced to critical reading strategies, literary criticism, and an expanding literary canon which includes the work of culturally diverse writers—including a classic piece from Greek or Shakespearian theatre. 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**

1. Identify and apply literary terms, concepts, devices and characteristics in short stories, poetry, and drama;
2. Think critically and independently in interpreting short stories, poetry, and drama;
3. Analyze how literature reflects human values and thus has relevance to today's world;
4. Describe the structural and language devices that are characteristic of the three genres studied;
5. Write clearly and intelligently about literature;
6. Communicate effectively an understanding of the literature and exchange ideas about literature in both whole-class discussions and small group discussions;
7. Perform basic literary research and use MLA-style documentation;
8. Understand and demonstrate the conventions of writing about literature;
9. Read literature more effectively with an appreciation for the sound and rhythm of words.

**Major Topics**

**I. The Short Story**

Students will study at least seven short stories representative of several different periods

of world literature, male and female perspectives (of authors and/or subject matter), and cultures (of authors and/or subject matter).

## II. Poetry

Students will study at least twenty poems representative of several different periods of world literature, male and female perspectives (of authors and/or subject matter), and cultures (of authors and/or subject matter).

The poems chosen for study will include a variety of poetic forms (e.g., sonnet, narrative, lyric).

## III. Drama

Students will study at least one Greek or Shakespearean play and one other play.

Students will be encouraged to attend a live performance of one of the plays studied and/or a poetry reading.

## **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.

## **Other course information**

This is a Literature/Humanities Core Course and a Literature Elective. This course meets the HCC definition for Cultural Diversity.