

**COURSE OUTLINE**  
**ENGL-225**  
**Introduction to World Literature**  
**3 Credits**

**HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**Description**

Introduction to World Literature examines a variety of texts from antiquity to modern times offering students an opportunity to study major literary works in the context of their cultural values and historical periods. Students apply basic terminology and devices for interpreting and analyzing literature while focusing on a variety of genres. They also work with critical reading strategies and literary criticism. This course is writing intensive. Prerequisite: ENGL-121. (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**

After successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Recognize literary terms, concepts, critical strategies and stylistic characters in world literature.
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 world literature reflects its intellectual, social, historical, and multicultural contexts.
5. Evaluate the power of world literature, culture to culture, to address personal values and goals and to challenge human endeavors.
6. Demonstrate an ability to contrast at least two cultures or two individual writers.

**Major Topics**

- I. The oral tradition
- II. Issues of reading literature in translation
- III. The relationship of the writers to their cultures and the writers' efforts to characterize the individuals within that culture
- IV. The reasons for the emergence of a particular genre or style within a certain culture
- V. Bridging the gap between cultures through an understanding of time, place, and circumstances, as well as universal symbols and other shared literary devices.

**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.