

Introduction to Literature



The following objectives and learning targets represent the major concepts studied and assessed in this course.

Course Objectives:

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

- Analyze a variety of authors and literary styles.
- Define the elements of fiction.
- Demonstrate personal analysis and evaluation of fictional works.
- Explain and assess personal responses to fiction and explore others' responses.
- Recognize how fiction reflects the components and contribution of one's own and other cultures.

Semester 1:

Unit 1: Introduction to Critical Modes of Interpretation

- Review literary elements and investigate various critical lenses in order to analyze literature and engage in real-world applications of those interpretations.

Unit 2: Pride and Power- *Things Fall Apart*

- Apply critical modes of interpretation focused on Marxist, feminist, and New Historicist criticism.
- Create defensible interpretation of the text using one of the critical modes of interpretation presented in Unit 1.

Unit 3: Dramatic Interpretation- *King Lear*

- Apply critical modes of interpretation focused on New Criticism and Reader-Response criticism.
- Contextualize the piece through use of real-world political or historical relation.

Unit 4 Men and Monsters- *Frankenstein*

- Apply critical modes of interpretation focused on psychological criticism, queer theory, and deconstructionism.
- Complete a multi-genre project encapsulating ideas presented not only in *Frankenstein*, but also in other works presented over the course of the semester.