San Jose City College Course Outline of Record

1. Course Discipline and Number: HUMNT-002
2. Course Title: Introduction to World Literature
3. Units: 3.00
4. Catalog Description:

   Students are introduced to a variety of literary works from around the world, from the 17th to the 21st century, the present, which are significant in illuminating both the universality and diversity of human experience. Readings in this course are chosen for their literary, historical, cultural, philosophical, and psychological importance.

5. Instruction Methodology: Lecture And/Or Discussion
6. Lecture Hours: 3.00
   Lab Hours: 0.00
   Total Contact Hours: 54.00
7. Grading: Letter Grade Only
8. Course Pre-requisite:
   ENGL-092 and READ-101 or ESL-091
9. Course Corequisite:
10. Repeatability:
    a. Status
    b. Times Repeatable
    c. Maximum Units:
11. Transfer Status: Transfer to UC, CSU
12. Learning Outcomes:
    a. Identify major authors and works in world literature from the 17th to the 21st century.
    b. Analyze recurring or disparate themes and tropes in world literature from the 17th to the 21st century.
    c. Define and apply literary terms necessary for reading, discussing, comprehending, analyzing, and writing about multiple genres in world literature.
    d. Support an interpretation using textual evidence.
13. Course Lecture Content
    I. Reading literature in a variety of genres
       A. Novel
       B. Short story
       C. Essay/nonfiction
       D. Drama
       E. Poetry
    II. Literature written by international authors from diverse eras and cultures, which include examples such as the following:
       A. Novels: Things Fall Apart, by Chinua Achebe; The House of the Spirits by Isabel Allende; Nervous Conditions by Tsitsi Dangarembwa; In Custody by Anita Desai; The Old Gringo, by Carlos Fuentes; Memoirs of a Geisha by Arthur Golden; When Heaven and Earth Changed Places, by Le Li Hayslip; Stones from the River by Ursula Hegi; Thousand Cranes by Yasunari Kawabata; Annie John by Jamaica Kincaid; Eighth Moon, by Bette Bao Lord; Angela's Ashes, by Frank McCourt; The Shipping News, by Annie E. Proulx; The Reader by Berhard Schlink; Ceremony by Leslie Marmon Silko; The Kitchen God's Wife by Amy Tan. The Hiding Place by Corrie Ten Boom; Rain of Gold by Victor Villasenor
       B. Short stories: “Charlie-O” by Cynthia Kadohata; “There Are A Lot of Ways to Die” by Neil Bissoondath; “Najaro Levon’s Old Country Advice on How to Live with a Snake” by
C. Essays/nonfiction ("From Korea to Heaven Country" by Lee Ki Chuck; "Allegory of the Cave" by Plato; "Teacher Wei" by Mark Salzman; "Next to Brezinski, Chelmsinski's a Snap" by Rudolph Chelmsinski; "Like Mexicans" by Gary Soto; "More Room" by Judith Ortiz Cofer)

D. Drama: Trotsky's Bar Mitzvah by Max Apple; And the Soul Shall Dance by Wakako Yamauchi; A Doll's House by Henrik Ibsen; plays by Shakespeare

E. Poetry: "Persimmons" by Li-Young Lee; "Borders" by Pat Mora; "Ancestor" by Jimmy Santiago Baca; "My Father's Song" by Simon Ortiz; "Heritage" by Lorna Dee Cervantes

III. The role of literature in helping readers to understand themselves and their world

A. Universal themes
B. Figurative language (tropes)
C. Assessment of the role of literature in determining identity
   1. Perspectives of the author
   2. Perspectives of the reader
   3. Perspectives of the character(s)

IV. Contexts within which works were composed, including issues such as the following:

A. Geographic location
B. Religious thought
C. Historical era
D. Biography of the author
E. Relationship of the work to similar works

V. Terminology of literary criticism

A. Novels and short stories (theme, symbol, setting, dialog, character development, climax, plot, interpretation, etc.)
B. Essays and other works of nonfiction (thesis, evidence, documentation, paraphrasing, rhetorical modes, etc.)
C. Drama (setting, monologs, theatrical context, use of irony, symbolism, etc.)
D. Poetry (rhythm patterns, rhyme schemes, poetic forms, use of figurative language, etc.)

VI. Interpretation of Literature

A. Textual evidence
B. Historical perspective
C. Cultural perspective
D. Philosophical perspective
E. Psychological perspective

14. Methods of Evaluation

Exams/Tests, Homework, Oral Presentation, Quizzes, Projects

Critical thinking example(s):

Describe to the class the norms of tribal culture relevant to Chinua Achebe's, Things Fall Apart.

15. Textbooks


h. Warner, Sterling. 2005. World Literature and Introduction to Theater Arts. San Jose: Maple Press,


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l. McKay, Claude. Harlem Shadows.
m. Pieterse, C. Ten One Act Plays.
n. Soyinka, Wole. Death of the King’s Horseman.
r. Mahfouz, Naguib. Trilogy.
s. Rifat, Ali. Distant View of a Minaret.
u. The Brothers Karamazov.
w. Pavic, Milan. Dictionary of the Khazars: (female version)
y. Solzhenitsyn, A. The Gulag Archipelago.
z. Tolstoy, Leo WAR AND PEACE
ac. Grass, Gunther. The Tin Drum.
ae. Steppenwolf
ag. The Trial.
ah. Sartre, Jean Paul. "The Wall"
ai. Unamuno, Miguel. Abel Sanchez.
ak. Anaya, Rodolfo. Bless Me Ultima.
al. Azuela, Marino. The Underdogs.
an. del las Cruz, Sor Juana Inés. Collected Works, Including Auto Sacramental.
aq. Fuentes, Carlos. The Death of Artemio Cruz.
ar. Marquez Gabriel Garcia. One Hundred Years of Solitude.
as. Mistral, Gabriela. La Maestra Rural.
av. Yannez Agustin. The Edge of the Storm.
ax. Allen, Paula. The Sacred Hoop: Recovering the Feminine in American Indian Traditions.
ay. Anaya, Rudolfo Alfonso. Bless Me, Ultima.
ba. Chopin, Kate. The Awakening.
bc. Erdrich, Louise. Tracks.
bj. Jackson, Shirley. We Have Always Lived in a Castle.
bk. Joyce, James. The Dubliners.
bl. Ulysses.
bo. King, Jr., Martin Luther. Strides Towards Freedom.
bq. Lawrence, D. H. The Plumed Serpent.
br. Le Guin, Ursula. Left Hand of Darkness.
by. O’Connor, Flannery. Everything that Rises Must Converge.
bz. Orwell, George. Animal Farm.
ca. Silko, Leslie M. Ceremony.
cb. Thoreau, Henry David. Walden
cc. Twain, Mark. Life on the Mississippi.
ce. Slaughterhouse Five.
cg. West, Nathanael. Miss Lonelyhearts.
ci. Selected handbook or style manual (MLA)

16. Assignments
Read short stories, plays, poetry, novels and nonfiction.
Write a book review as directed by the instructor.
Write an essay that analyzes, compares and contrasts literature of varied genres, using MLA format and style.
Write and discuss authors’ use of literary techniques and conventions.

Critical thinking example(s):
Compare and contrast the protagonist in Richard Wright's Native Son with the protagonist of Fyodor Dostoevsky's Crime and Punishment.

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