

Common Course Outline for: ENGL 1140 Gender and Literature

A. Course Description

Number of credits: 3 credits
 Lecture hours per week: 3
 Lab hours per week: None

3. Prerequisites: Eligibility for ENGC 1101 and READ 1106

4. Co-requisites: None

5. MnTC Goals: 6 (Humanities and Fine Arts) and 7 (Human Diversity)

Students will study works of literature with a gender-focused perspective. As part of their study, students may explore literary images of men and women, representations of gender in literature, portrayals of gender-based attitudes and values, and the ways in which writing can change conventional views of gender.

B. Date Last Reviewed: January 2020

C. Outline of Major Content Areas

- 1. Close analytical reading of literary texts (perhaps some selections from philosophy/sociology).
- 2. The nature of figurative language
- 3. Relationship of form and idea in literature
- 4. Topics -- As chosen by instructor:

Gender Identity Gender in History & Society Gender & Ethics

Images of Gender Marriage & Relationships Other

Nature vs. Nurture Men's & Women's Work

D. Course Learning Outcomes

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

- 1. Gather information from canonical literature and apply it to help explicate important and thought-provoking treatments on the question of gender, with an eye to how such questions shaped the Western canon. (Goal 2a)
- 2. Demonstrate knowledge of gender-related under-represented populations in the Western canon, including such populations as women, LGBTQ authors, etc. (Goal 7a, b, d)
- 3. Articulate different interpretations/answers to the longstanding and difficult questions of gender, recognizing the value assumptions that underlie and affect those interpretations. (Goals 2b, d)
- 4. Formulate a personal response to and engage in a conversation exploring the contemporary, personal, moral, and political values rising from the literature. (Goals 6e, b)
- 5. Challenge and question the array of positions within these widely read and accepted texts. (Goal 6a)

- 6. Analyze and articulate ways in which the elements of literature (varying by genre) help to clarify and sharpen the concepts of masculinity and femininity. (Goal 6c)
- 7. Examine and articulate differences in the value assumptions and techniques employed by diverse writers, which contribute to the scope and variety of these works. (Goals 6a, 2c)

E. Methods for Assessing Student Learning

- 1. Reading responses
- 2. Analytical Essays
- 3. Reading quizzes
- 4. Final and Midterm Exam
- 5. Class participation/discussion
- F. Special Information: None