

**Department of English and Modern Languages
College of Arts and Sciences
Fall Semester, 20XX**

**Course Syllabus for
ENGL 116 General Literature (Theme)**

This Course Qualifies as a Pitt State Pathway Course

The *Pitt State Pathway* curriculum serves as the heart of the university education by fostering interdisciplinary competencies that typify the educated person. It is designed to facilitate the development of key proficiencies including communication and information literacy. The *Pitt State Pathway* curriculum provides a transformational experience that challenges students to think creatively and critically, and to immerse themselves in the productive examination of humans in their global setting. By encouraging the development of skills that promote life-long learning, the *Pitt State Pathway* fosters a sense of personal responsibility, an appreciation of diversity, and an understanding of interconnectedness in our truly global society.

Catalog Description

Exploration of a significant theme through an introduction to two or more literary genres: poetry, fiction, or drama. Not open to students with credit in ENGL 304 Introduction to Writing About Literature.

Course Objectives

Students will

1. Understand their literary heritage by reading traditional and contemporary literature that focuses on a significant theme in two or more genres.
2. Recognize a global perspective of literatures and cultures through readings by men and women in English and in translation from other languages.
3. Understand the readings through the use of other genres, film, or other media.

Nature of the Course

Each instructor will determine how best to implement the goals and objectives and how to teach the genres as above, but all students can expect that the course will foster critical reading and critical thinking skills.

Pitt State Pathway Essential Element to be covered in this course:

Human Experience within a Global Context Essential Studies

Understanding the diverse nature, meanings, or functions of creative endeavors through the study of literature, music, theater, visual arts, or related forms of expression help us understand ourselves. Competency in this element means:

- *Applying* cultural concepts and/or methodologies in the analysis of literary, performing, visual, or other art forms;
- *Analyzing* how literature, performance, the visual arts, or other creative endeavors respond to and influence society and culture;

- *Analyzing* creative endeavors in a contextual framework, such as critical theory, aesthetics, philosophy of art, or rhetoric;
- *Demonstrating* concepts that characterize a polycentric view of the world in contrast to an ethnocentric perspective.

The Pitt State Pathway Companion Element to be covered in this course is:

Diverse perspectives within a Global Context

Valuing different perspectives and analyzing the interrelationships between them leads to global respect and understanding. Competency in this element means:

- *Applying* multiple perspectives to personal, social, cultural, disciplinary, environmental, race, ethnicity, gender, nationhood, religion, or class interactions;
- *Analyzing* connections between worldviews, power structures, or experiences of multiple cultures in a historical or contemporary context;
- *Analyzing* issues of diversity (i.e. religious, racial, sexual orientations, gender, or disabilities).

Learning Outcome: Students will explore global systems conscientiously.

The Pitt State Pathway Learning Outcome Level of this course is Benchmark:

Students will be able to recognize that various art forms respond to and influence society and culture

Methods

To achieve our instructional objectives, instructors will employ lecture, discussion, and student oral and written response. Faculty may also employ some combination of other instructional methods, including worksheets, small-group work, journals, readings in literary criticism, creative writing assignments, videos and films, out-of-class cultural events (e.g. poetry readings, etc.), in-class writing, panels, out-of-class responses, role playing, outside speakers, etc.

Assessment

Student work will be evaluated on the basis of examinations and papers. Faculty may also employ some combination of other evaluation methods, including worksheets, small group work, journals, creative writing assignments, in-class writing, panels, out-of-class responses, quizzes, etc.