

CATALOG INFORMATION

Dept and Nbr: ENGL 15

Title: WOMEN IN LITERATURE

Full Title: Women in Literature

Last Reviewed: 5/13/2002

Units		Course Hours per Week		Nbr of Weeks	Course Hours Total	
Maximum	3.00	Lecture Scheduled	3.00	17.5	Lecture Scheduled	52.50
Minimum	3.00	Lab Scheduled	0	6	Lab Scheduled	0
		Contact DHR	0		Contact DHR	0
		Contact Total	3.00		Contact Total	52.50
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 105.00

Total Student Learning Hours: 157.50

Title 5 Category: AA Degree Applicable

Grading: Grade or P/NP

Repeatability: 00 - Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

Also Listed As:

Formerly:

**Catalog Description:**  
Study of the tradition of women writing fiction, poetry and drama. While focusing on women in the western literary tradition, attention will be paid to work from other cultures. Approach will be interdisciplinary, with reference to history, sociology, psychology and art. Study will include examination of the place of women in literary history, and the role of changing models of literary criticism.

**Prerequisites/Corequisites:**  
Eligibility for Engl 1A or equivalent.

**Recommended Preparation:**

**Limits on Enrollment:**

**Schedule of Classes Information:**  
Description: Study of the tradition of women writing fiction, poetry, and drama. While focusing on women writing in the Western literary tradition, attention will be paid to work from other cultures. (Grade or P/NP)  
Prerequisites/Corequisites: Eligibility for Engl 1A or equivalent.

Recommended:  
Limits on Enrollment:  
Transfer Credit:  
Repeatability: Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

## **ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:**

<b>AS Degree:</b>	<b>Area</b>		<b>Effective:</b>	<b>Inactive:</b>
	E	Humanities	Fall 1981	Fall 2010
<b>CSU GE:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>		<b>Effective:</b>	<b>Inactive:</b>
	C2	Humanities	Spring 1991	Fall 2010
<b>IGETC:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>		<b>Effective:</b>	<b>Inactive:</b>
	3B	Humanities	Fall 1981	Fall 2010
<b>CSU Transfer:</b>		<b>Effective:</b>	<b>Inactive:</b>	
<b>UC Transfer:</b>		<b>Effective:</b>	<b>Inactive:</b>	

**CID:**

**Certificate/Major Applicable:**

Major Applicable Course

## **COURSE CONTENT**

**Outcomes and Objectives:**

Students will:

1. Read, analyze and evaluate works by women writers of the past and present.
2. Study historical patterns which have influenced women's literary productions.
3. Identify the traditions of women writing within the genre conventions.
4. Demonstrate a critical understanding of the archetypal use of women in literature.
5. Examine the discipline of women's studies, particularly as it applies to the study of literature.
6. Differentiate among schools of criticism which have influenced the works of women writers and which have influenced the study of women writers.
7. Analyze historical, sociological and psychological trends which have influenced the role of women writers and which have shaped the study of their work.
8. Identify the central themes within the traditions of women writers.
9. Study the influence of gender, race and class on literary production, publication, and canon-forming.

**Topics and Scope:**

1. Ancient texts: Sappho and her sisters.
2. The Middle Ages and the Renaissance.
  - A. Themes

1. retelling biblical myths
2. chivalric texts
3. women in the lyrics
- B. Writers
  1. religious figures
  2. personal writing
  3. misconceptions about the role of the medieval woman
  4. women in texts by men
3. The Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries: "The moment when the middle-class woman began to write".
  - A. Early professionals: Anne Bradstreet and Aphra Behn
  - B. Expanded opportunities: Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, Mary Wollstonecraft
  - C. Images of continued misogyny
4. The Nineteenth Century: The Golden Age.
  - A. The development of the novel
  - B. Romanticism and the Gothic
  - C. "Madwoman in the attic"
  - D. "The angle in the house"
  - E. The New Woman
5. The Twentieth Century.
  - A. Turn of the Century
    1. The developing American voice: "The American Girl"
    2. Other new voices from the colonies
  - B. Modernist Literature
    1. New "women's voice": Richardson, Stein, Woolf
    2. Alternative world views
  - C. Contemporary Literature
    1. Poetry
    2. Fiction
    3. Drama

### **Assignment:**

#### **READING:**

1. Assigned readings from text, plus supplementary handouts.
2. Some assigned reading of secondary texts.
3. Self-directed research projects.

#### **WRITING:**

1. Reader response essays or journal writing, both in class and at home.
2. Critical essays covering units of study, themes, or individual works.
3. Research projects (i.e., annotated bibliography, classroom presentation on author or theme, survey of criticism).
4. Final essay exam.
5. Short objective quizzes.

### **Methods of Evaluation/Basis of Grade:**

**Writing:** Assessment tools that demonstrate writing skills and/or require students to select, organize and explain ideas in writing.

Written homework, Reading reports, Essay exams, Term papers

Writing  
50 - 70%

**Problem Solving:** Assessment tools, other than exams, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-computational problem solving skills.

Group oral presentations

Problem solving  
10 - 20%

**Skill Demonstrations:** All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.

None

Skill Demonstrations  
0 - 0%

**Exams:** All forms of formal testing, other than skill performance exams.

Multiple choice, Matching items, Completion

Exams  
10 - 20%

**Other:** Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.

Participation in class discussion.

Other Category  
10 - 20%

### **Representative Textbooks and Materials:**

NORTON ANTHOLOGY OF LITERATURE BY WOMEN: THE TRADITION IN ENGLISH,  
2nd ed., Gilbert and Gubar, 1996.

LITERARY FEMINISMS, Ruth Robbins. Transitions, 2000.

A LITERATURE OF THEIR OWN, Elaine Showalter. Princeton Univ. Press, 1998.

FEMINISMS: AN ANTHOLOGY OF LITERARY THEORY AND CRITICISM, Warhol  
and Herndl, eds., 1997.

RECOMMENDED - Literary criticism focusing on issues surrounding women  
writers.