

C-ID Descriptor

Argumentative Writing and Critical Thinking Through Literature

Descriptor Details

- **Descriptor Title:** Argumentative Writing and Critical Thinking Through Literature
- **C-ID Number:** 110
- **Units:** 4.0
- **Hours:** 0000
- **Date of Last Revision:** 6/13/2024 08:52:12 AM PDT

General Description

This course offers instruction in analytical, critical, and argumentative writing, critical thinking, research strategies, information literacy, and proper documentation through the study of literary works from major genres, while developing students' close reading skills and promoting an appreciation for the aesthetic qualities of literature.

Prerequisites

Successful completion of college-level composition (C-ID ENGL 100)

Corequisites

No information provided

Advisories

No information provided

Content

Develop writing and reading skills for logical reasoning and argumentation.

Genres: at minimum, poetry, dramatic writing, and fiction (novel and short story)

Literary terminology, devices, and critical approaches

Active and critical reading strategies

Writing critically about literature

Minimum 5,000 words of formal writing

Lab Activities

No information provided

Objectives

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Critically read, analyze, compare, and evaluate complex literary texts.
2. Demonstrate understanding of formal and informal fallacies in language and thought.
3. Identify a text's premises and assumptions in various social, historical, cultural, psychological, or aesthetic contexts.
4. Analyze and employ logical and structural methods such as inductive and deductive reasoning, cause and effect, and logos, ethos, and pathos.
5. Compose thesis-driven arguments to suit a variety of rhetorical situations, including interpretation, evaluation, and analysis, supporting them with a variety of appropriate textual evidence and examples and demonstrating appropriate academic discourse and the conventions of literary analysis.
6. Find, analyze, interpret, and evaluate primary and secondary sources, incorporating them into written work using appropriate documentation format without plagiarism.
7. Use style, diction, and tone appropriate to a diverse academic community and the purpose of the specific writing task; proofread, edit, and revise essays so English grammar, usage, and punctuation do not impede clarity.
8. Identify key elements of major genres in order to analyze and interpret texts.
9. Define common literary terms and apply these to analysis of specific texts.

Evaluation Methods

Primarily written papers and should include a balance of essay exams, class discussion, oral presentations, and quizzes.

Informal writing (examples include journals, annotations, reader responses, in-class essays, and responses to questions)

Other evaluation methods such as quizzes, projects, and portfolios

Textbooks

Note: Multiple texts may be necessary to fulfill the purposes of this course. Any individual text listed below may not stand alone as sufficient.

Texts or appropriate Open Educational Resource (OER) containing culturally diverse college-level fiction and non-fiction texts

James and Merickel, *Reading Literature and Writing Argument*. New York: Longman.

Morgan, Stallings, and Townsend. *Strategies for Reading and Arguing About Literature*. Longman.

Schilb, John, and John Clifford. *Making Arguments about Literature*. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's.

Meyer. *The Bedford Introduction to Literature: Reading, Writing, Thinking*. Boston: Bedford/St. Martins

Barnet, Cain, Burton, & Berman. *An Introduction to Literature*. New York: Longman

Sample Manuals, Other support Materials:

Harmon and Holman. *A Handbook to Literature*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall

A college-level handbook on writing about literature and documentation