Note this departmentally developed course syllabus is intended for use by faculty, staff, and stakeholders in the College. It is not intended to be handed out to students as a specific guide to their individual classes; however, students, as stakeholders may have access to it. The original is housed in the Office of the Vice President of Academic Affairs and an electronic copy is stored on the College’s intranet.

Course Code: English 200
Course Title: Introduction to Literature
Department: English, Humanities, Visual and Performing Arts
**Course Description:** The four literary forms – poetry, drama, the short story, and the novel – are studied. Major emphasis is on teaching students to read critically and to write critical essays based on the analysis of various literary works. Students are encouraged to take ENG 200 prior to taking other 200–level courses.

**Learning Outcomes** for this course: Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to

1. Analyze the elements of fiction in short stories and in the novel including plot, dynamic character, setting, dramatic irony, situational irony, exposition, foreshadowing, flashback, and theme in critical essays.

2. Apply the conventions of MLA documentation in critical essays.

3. Analyze the elements of drama from the modern period as well as ancient Greek tragedy including characterization, theme, resolution, rising and falling action, influence of Greek tragedy on modern theater.

4. Analyze the elements of poetry in various periods including theme, figurative language terms, form and structure.

5. Identify pertinent literary criticisms used in literature in order to explain how the literary criticism reveals the purpose of the writing.

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**Baltimore City Community College**

**English 200: Introduction to Literature**

**Instructor:** Paul Long, Associate Professor of English

**Office:** 121 B, Main Building

**Office Hours:** Mon 10:00 -11:00, 12:00-1:00, Tu 10:00-11:00, Wed 10:00 -11:00, 12:00-1:00, Th 10:00-11:00 4:00-5:30 (Also by appointment)

**Telephone:** 410-462-8593

**E-mail:** plong@bccc.edu

**No Required Texts**

All readings and resources will be posted on Canvas
Course Description:
English 200, Introduction to Literature, is designed to provide you with a basic understanding of the three principal literary genres: fiction, poetry, and drama. You will develop the ability to read all three with the critical appreciation of a mature reader, thus allowing you to make value judgments based upon your reactions and perceptions of the works read in the course. Most importantly, you will learn to use verbal and written discourse about literature as a means of clarifying your thinking, and you will base your opinions on sound literary evidence. This combination of critical reading and informed expression can be considered the hallmarks of an educated mind.

Course Requirements:
You will write two essays:
Essay One – Fiction – 25% of grade
Essay Two – Drama – 25% of grade

In addition to the two essays you will also complete
Weekly Reading Questions 25%
Discussion Board Postings 25%

Percentages Explained:
Each week you will complete guided Reading and Discussion Board questions to demonstrate your mastery of the assigned reading and also its relation to earlier material covered in the course.

Both sets of questions (Reading and Discussion Board) are out of a maximum of 10 points

10 = A = Excellent score (provides specific and relevant support for each question answered)
8 = B = Above average (provides specific and relevant support for most of the questions)
7 = C = Average score (support is general, little specific support used to answer the questions)
6 = D = Below Average score (answers to questions are vague, general, and/or irrelevant)

Reading Questions and Discussion Board Questions are each worth 25% of your final grade.

Course Policies

1. Attendance: Regular attendance is crucial to classroom learning (even in an online class!). You are expected to attend all classes. If you miss more than 3 hours of instruction, you must provide a documented excuse or risk a negative consequence to
your final grade. Note: Regardless of your reason for missing a class, you are responsible for arranging to make up missed work.

2. **Participation**: You are expected to be prepared for class and to participate in class discussions and group work activities, Yes! Even online!!!!. Such participation will be difficult unless you have read the assigned material and have the text with you.

3. **Late Assignments**: You are expected to turn in essays and assignments on the due date identified in the syllabus. If you are unable to meet this requirement, please speak with me in advance of the due date to make other arrangements. Unexcused late essays or assignments will not be accepted. Late Work (including makeups on tests and quizzes) will only be accepted when the student submits verifiable written documentation of a legitimate absence (e.g. court, medical, military) as required and accepted by the instructor. The student must submit the documentation upon return to the next class meeting. Note: You must complete all of the essays to pass the course.

4. **Getting Help**: If you feel you need help with your work, speak with me during my office hours, before or after class, or go to the **Writing Center in MNB 104**. One-on-one tutoring from faculty is available from 10:00 am until 8:00 pm. You will be able to get help on such matters as organization, grammar, punctuation, and research documentation, but tutors are not available to proofread or approve your papers for you.

5. **Disability Support Services**: Baltimore City Community College provides accommodations for students with a documented disability. Students with documented disabilities, including non-visible disabilities such as chronic diseases, learning disabilities, head injury, attention deficit disorder, psychiatric disabilities, should notify Disability Support Services Center located in the Main Building 023, 410-462-8585, of any special needs.

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**No Late Work! NO EXCEPTIONS**

All assignments must be handed in by the due dates, which are given well in advance. Exceptions-- **Military obligation and/or extended hospitalization of the student, not family members. Doctors’ appointments are not exceptions.**

For these two exceptions, students must submit the required legal documentation before any make-ups can be given.
Academic Dishonesty/Cheating/Plagiarism Policy:

You will receive a 0 (zero) for any offense of Plagiarism on any assignment in our class!

All students are required to exhibit academic honesty in all academic exercises and assignments. Cheating (using unauthorized material or study aids), Fabrication (making up false information), Facilitating Academic Dishonesty (helping another to violate the policy on academic dishonesty), and/or Plagiarism (the deliberate adoption or reproduction of ideas or works or statements of another person[s] as one’s own, without acknowledgement) may cause a student to fail this course and/or be expelled from this College.

I look forward to a great semester with you!

Course Preparation Assignment Schedule

Week 1 (July 10 – 16)  Introduction to course and review of course policies, outline, and assignment schedule.

**Week 1 Assignment** - “The Yellow Wallpaper,” by Charlotte Perkins Gilman

**Week 1 Discussion Board** - “A Rose for Emily” by William Faulkner

Week 2 (July 17 – 23)  Fiction Continued: Plot, character, setting, point of view, theme, foreshadowing, flashback, protagonist, antagonist, climax, rising action, exposition, complication, resolution, irony, dramatic irony, situational irony, symbol, conflict

**Week 2 Assignment** – “A Good Man is Hard to Find,” by Flannery O’Connor

**Week 2 Discussion Board** – “Happy Endings,” by Margaret Atwood

**Essay #1 Due Sunday, July 23 at 11:59PM**
Week 3 (July 24 – 30)  Poetry - Reading a Poem

Emily Dickinson
“I Heard a Fly Buzz when I died”
“Because I could not Stop for Death”

Robert Frost
“Mending Wall”
“Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening”

Langston Hughes
“The Negro Speaks of Rivers”
“Mother to Son”
“Theme for English B”

Week 3 Assignment – Questions on the poems we have read
Week 3 Discussion Board – Questions on the poems we have read

Week 4 (Jul 31 – Aug 6)  Drama!

Reading a play-- *Trifles*, by Susan Glaspell

*Week 4 Assignment – Trifles*, Susan Glaspell
*Week 4 Discussion Board – Fences* Act 1 by August Wilson

Week 5 (August 7 – 13)  Drama Continued

*Week 5 Assignment – Fences* Act 2 by August Wilson
*Week 5 Discussion Board – Fences* Act 2 by August Wilson

Last Day of Class Sunday, August 13

*Essay #2 Due Sunday, August 13 at 11:59pm*