

CUMBERLAND COUNTY COLLEGE

Course: EN 209 American Literature I

Credits: 3

Prerequisites

Students taking English 209 shall have successfully passed English 102.

Description

English 209 is a survey course of American literature from the colonial period through the nineteenth century. Since the purpose of a survey course is to study those authors contributing the most significantly in the widest possible range, the focus in this course is on the major authors of each period, yet writers of lesser stature are not excluded.

Learning Outcomes

At the completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Identify the significance of certain literary works from the American Colonial Period, the Age of Reason and Revolution, and the Age of Romanticism;
- Explain relationship between the literary works and the traditions, philosophies, and historical background of the period in which they appear;
- Explain the relevance of each work studied to life and values in the early 21st century;
- Apply critical thinking and writing skills developed in EN 102.

Related General Education Outcomes

Humanistic Perspective

- Students will describe commonly used approaches and criteria for analyzing works.
- Students will analyze works and applying commonly used approaches and criteria.

Topical Outline

To implement achieving the goals in this course, the student will be held responsible for the following work: weekly reading assignments and class discussion of these' a minimum of 3 papers of critical analysis; a longer paper of critical analysis – comparison – as the term paper; quizzes; two tests – first covering the colonial and Revolutionary periods, second covering the romantic period.

Tentative Outline:

- Unit 1: introduction on the literature of colonial America; critical discussion of the works of Bradford, Williams, Bradstreet, Taylor, Sewall, Rowlandson, Edwards;
- Unit 2: introduction on the literature of Reason and Revolution; critical discussion of the works of Franklin, deCrevecoeur, Paine, Jefferson, Wheatley, Freneau;
- Unit 3: introduction on the Age of Romanticism; critical discussion of the works of Irving, Cooper, Bryant (early romantics); critical analysis #1; mid term exam;

- Unit 4: introductory discussion on major writers of the Age of Romanticism – poetry and fiction; critical discussion of the works of Poe, Hawthorne, Melville; critical analysis #2;
- Unit 5: introductory discussion on major writers of the Age of Romanticism – non-fiction; critical discussion of the works of Emerson and Thoreau; critical analysis #3;
- Unit 6: introductory discussion on later poets of the Age of Romanticism; critical discussion of the poems of Longfellow, Whittier, Holmes, Lowell; term paper; final exam.

Required Texts and Other Materials

Anthology of American Literature: Vol. I. by McMichael, Leonard, et als., 10th edition: Longman/Pearson.

Student Assessment

The evaluation procedure will include the following: the two tests – 1/3 of the final The evaluation procedure will include the following: the two tests – 1/3 of the final evaluation; short papers of critical analysis – 1/3; longer paper of critical analysis (comparison) – 1/3. Class participation and quizzes will be taken into consideration whenever the grade for the course is in question.

Entrance and Exit Criteria:

Entrance Criteria for EN 209:

Students who have passed English 102 shall have

- acquired the ability to write a logically organized, fully developed critical analysis of a work of literature, a critical explication in which a thesis statement is specifically supported in at least three paragraphs of illustration;
- written a minimum of three such papers of critical analysis, one each for the following genre forms: short story, drama, poetry;
- written a 6-9 typed paged research paper on a literary topic, a research project that utilizes the MLA format.

Exit Criteria for EN 209:

Students shall have

- successfully written at least three logically structured, coherently argued critical reaction papers;
- successfully written a logically structured, coherently argued long critical analysis – comparison – as term paper;
- successfully written two major tests.

Academic Integrity

Plagiarism is cheating. Plagiarism is presenting in written work, in public speaking, and in oral reports the ideas or exact words of someone else without proper documentation.

Whether the act of plagiarism is deliberate or accidental [ignorance of the proper rules for handling material is no excuse], plagiarism is, indeed, a “criminal” offense.

As such, a plagiarized paper or report automatically receives a grade of **ZERO** and the student may receive a grade of **F** for the semester at the discretion of the instructor.

Available Resources

If you are having difficulty with work in this class, tutoring is available through the Success Center. If you think that you might have a learning disability, contact Project Assist at 856.691.8600, x1282 for information on assistance that can be provided to eligible students.

(List availability of open labs and/or writing center)

Before Withdrawing From This Course

If a student experiences adverse circumstances while enrolled in this course and considers withdrawing, s/he should see an advisor (division or advisement center) BEFORE withdrawing from the class. A withdrawal may cause harmful repercussions to completion rate standards and overall GPA which can limit or eliminate future financial aid in addition to causing academic suspension.