

Virginia Western Community College

ENG 275

Women in Literature

Prerequisites

ENG 112, ENG 113, or departmental approval

Course Description

Examines literary texts by women writers from diverse time periods, genres, and authors. Develops skills of close reading and literary analysis through analysis of texts within their historical, cultural, social, and/or literary contexts. Explores how women's experiences have shaped their literary contributions, the cultural forces affecting their lives, and how they have used writing to shape their cultures.

General Course Purpose

ENG 275 introduces traditions in literature by women writers. This course focuses on the skills of close reading, interpretation, and literary analysis.

Semester Credits: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Required Materials

1. Internet access
2. Canvas
3. Computer

Textbooks:

[Let's Get Writing-- OER Textbook](#)

[Let's Keep Writing – OER Textbook](#)

[VCU Writes Citation guide](#) or comparable open educational resource as chosen by instructor.

Additional Open Educational Resources

Other Required Materials:

None

Course Outcomes

Critical Thinking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate, interpret, and use information, ideas and arguments from a variety of perspectives (including the written arguments of others) to analyze complex issues • Interpret and combine information to reach and/or evaluate well-reasoned conclusions
Written Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construct evidence-based writing about literary texts • Develop and explain complex ideas in writing
Cultural and Civic Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critique the impact of historical, social, and cultural events, including social and political activism, affecting women of different races, ethnicities, and cultures, including understandings of gender • Develop a framework for understanding civic values and responsibilities as conveyed in women's literature
Inquiry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construct and explore meaningful questions about diverse human and gendered experiences through literary study

Historical and social contexts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain connections between literary texts and related historical, social, and literary contexts
Close Reading and Critical Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze literary texts using appropriate vocabulary and a variety of methodological approaches and perspectives, exploring the ways literary texts reflect and challenge cultural values, beliefs, and understandings of gender
Literary Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support interpretations of literary texts with valid textual evidence and use appropriate scholarly sources to further inquiry into literary texts
Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compose well-organized writing of literary analysis that features substantial, logical, and concrete development of ideas with appropriate documentation

Major Topics to be Included

Critical Thinking
 Written Communication
 Cultural and Civic Engagement
 Literary Traditions
 Inquiry
 Historical and social contexts
 Close Reading and Critical Analysis
 Literary Analysis
 Writing