

# 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:**

*The House on Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros ISBN9780679734772

[Survey of Women's Literature](#) –

*OER Textbook*

Additional Open Educational Resources

#### **Other Required Materials:**

None

## Course Outcomes

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

Close Reading and Critical Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>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</li></ul>
Literary Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Support interpretations of literary texts with valid textual evidence and use appropriate scholarly sources to further inquiry into literary texts</li></ul>
Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Compose well-organized writing of literary analysis that features substantial, logical, and concrete development of ideas with appropriate documentation</li></ul>

### **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

### **Notes to Instructors:**

[ADA Statement \(PDF\)](#)  
[Title IX Statement \(PDF\)](#)