



COURSE OUTLINE SPRING 2009

Course Number
ENG234

Course Title
Caribbean Literature

Credits
3

Hours: 3
lecture/Lab/Other

Co- or Pre-requisite
ENG102 with C or better

Implementation
sem/year SP 2009

Catalog description (2006-2009 Catalog):

Survey of Literature of the Caribbean in English. Examines political, historical and social influences on the personal writings, poetry, drama, fiction and essays of the writers from the 17th Century to the present.

Is course New, Revised, or Modified? Revised

Required texts/other materials:

- *CARIBBEANA: An Anthology of English Literature of the West Indies 1657-1777* ed. Thomas W. Krise Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1999. ISBN# 0-226-45392-8
- *Heinemann Book of Caribbean Poetry* eds. Brown and McDonald ISBN# 0-435-98817-4
- *Oxford Book of Caribbean Short Stories* eds. Brown and Wickham. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2006 ISBN# 0-192-80229-1
- *Krik? Krak!* by Edwidge Danticott ISBN # 0-679-6657X
- *Other America: Caribbean Literature in a New World Context* by J. Michael Dash ISBN # 0-813-91764-6

Revision date:
February 2009

Course coordinator: Noreen L. Duncan duncann@mccc.edu 609-570-3570

Information resources:

Academic Web Resources
MCCC Library

Course Competencies/Goals:

The student will be able to:

- examine and analyze literature of the Caribbean;
- understand the geography, history and the cultural contexts of Caribbean literature;
- recognize the historic, social, political and linguistic traditions that created Caribbean literature;
- appreciate the variety of cultural influences that inform Caribbean literature;
- appreciate the varied oral and written literatures of the Caribbean;
- write three (3) papers [of six pages] that demonstrate understanding of the themes studied in the course;
- research and write one major final paper [MLA at least 10 pages] that demonstrates understanding of a Caribbean writer's body of literary work or a set of literary works on the same theme.

Course-specific General Education Knowledge Goals and Core Skills.

General Education Knowledge Goals

Goal 1. Communication. Students will communicate effectively in both speech and writing.

Goal 4. Technology. Students will use computer systems or other appropriate forms of technology to research literary works and writers concerning the Caribbean

Goal 6. Humanities. Students will analyze works in the fields of art, music, or theater; literature; philosophy and/or religious studies in the study of Caribbean literature.

Goal 7. History. Students will understand historical events and movements in Caribbean societies and assess their subsequent significance.

Goal 8. Diversity. Students will understand the importance of a global perspective and culturally diverse peoples as they read and study Caribbean literary works.

Goal 9. Ethical Reasoning and Action. Students will understand ethical issues and situations in their study of Caribbean literature.

MCCC Core Skills

Goal A. Written and Oral Communication in English. Students will communicate effectively in speech and writing, and demonstrate proficiency in reading the literary works.

Goal B. Critical Thinking and Problem-solving. Students will use critical thinking and problem solving skills in analyzing information in their study of Caribbean Literature.

Goal C. Ethical Decision-Making. Students will recognize, analyze and assess ethical issues and situations as presented in Caribbean literature.

Goal D. Information Literacy. Students will recognize when information is needed and have the knowledge and skills to locate, evaluate, and effectively use information for the required course papers.

Goal E. Computer Literacy. Students will use computers to access, analyze or present information, solve problems, and communicate with others.

Goal F. Collaboration and Cooperation. Students will develop the interpersonal skills required for effective performance in group situations in the study of Caribbean literature.

Goal G. Intra-Cultural and Inter-Cultural Responsibility. Students will demonstrate an awareness of the responsibilities of intelligent citizenship in a diverse and pluralistic society, and will demonstrate cultural, global, and environmental awareness as they study the literary works of Caribbean writers.

Units of study in detail.

Unit I Early Contemplations

Students will be able to read, analyze and respond in writing to

- Essays, poetry and fiction about the Caribbean on subjects related to the Caribbean – 17th and 18th centuries

Unit II A Sense of Home

Students will be able to read, analyze and respond in writing to

- Poetry and fiction placing Caribbean writers in the geographical Caribbean

Unit III Sense of Place

Students will be able to read, analyze and respond in writing to

- Essays, poetry and fiction on subjects, including incidents, characters and idiom of the Caribbean.

Unit IV Caribbean Commonalities

Students will be able to read, analyze and respond in writing to

- Poetry and fiction that recognize common experiences, cultural similarities and natural phenomena of the Caribbean.

Unit V Emigration: Looking Outwards

Students will be able to read, analyze and respond in writing to

- Fiction, essays, poetry that are concerned with events and incidents related to the Caribbean by Caribbean writers looking abroad, outside of the Caribbean

Unit VI Foods of the Caribbean

Students will be able to read, analyze and respond in writing to

- Works including fiction and poetry whose subjects are the culinary tastes and images of the Caribbean

Unit VII Weather

Students will be able to read, analyze and respond in writing to

Poetry, articles and fiction concerned with natural phenomena including hurricanes in the Caribbean

Unit VIII Political Issues

Students will be able to read, analyze and respond in writing to

- Fiction, essays, poetry and other readings concerned with historical and contemporary political structures of the Caribbean

Unit IX Religious Experience

Students will be able to read, analyze and respond in writing to

- Poetry and fiction whose subjects are the spiritual and religious in the Caribbean

Unit X Art and Music

Students will be able to read, analyze and respond in writing to

Fiction, essays, poetry and other readings about art and music peculiar to the Caribbean

Unit XI Looking Outward

Students will be able to read, analyze and respond in writing to

- A full length novel that is the current theme of the course

Learning Objectives

The student will be able to...

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Evaluation of student learning

• Class Discussion Questions (4)	20%
• Class Papers (3) MLA Documentation style required	45%
• Final Research Paper (MLA documentation style required)	30%
• Student Preparation and Contribution	05%
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TOTAL	100%

Academic Integrity Statement:

Mercer County Community College is committed to academic integrity – the honest, fair and continuing pursuit of knowledge, free from fraud or deception.

- Students should never:
 - Knowingly represent the work of others as their own
 - Knowingly represent previously completed academic work as current
 - Fabricate data to support academic work
 - Use or obtain unauthorized assistance in the execution of any academic work
 - Give fraudulent assistance to other students
 - Unethically use technological means to gain academic advantages

Violators of the above actions will be penalized. For a single violation the faculty member will determine the course of action. This may include, assigning a lower grade on the assignment, lowering the course grade, failing the student, or another penalty that is appropriate to the violation. The student will be reported to the Academic Integrity Committee, who may impose other penalties for a second (or later) violation. The student has right to a hearing and also to appeal any decisions. These rights are outlined in the student handbook.