

Syllabus

Code: ENGL 150

Title: African-American Literature

Institute: Humanities

Department: English

Course Description:

This introductory African-American Literature survey course, through eclectic samplings of narratives, poetry, short stories, plays, and novels, exposes students to literary contributions of prominent/influential Black writers beginning with the 18th century through the 21st century. Increased enjoyment, study, and appreciation of texts and authors explored emerge from critical analysis of literary selections, classroom discussions, and written journal and research projects.

Prerequisites: ENGL 121

Corequisites:

Prerequisites or Corequisites:

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Lab/Studio Hours:

Required Textbook/Materials:

See information on individual instructor's addendum.

Additional Time Requirements:

For information on Brookdale's policy on credit hour requirements and outside class student work refer to [Academic Credit Hour Policy](#).

Course Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Relate the vast array of voices from the early American colonial period to the present day that helped to shape the literary heritage of African-American culture to the literary and cultural issues raised in the readings.
- Discuss the historical and contextual information of texts assigned in class.
- Analyze texts orally and in writing including reference to the historical background.
- Explain the literary elements and structures of oral traditions that continue to make these texts unique in the American literary canon of the past and present.
- Evaluate the ethical implications of the content presented in the readings.
- Identify discipline-specific library databases to acquire and present information within a literary analysis paper.

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(Core Competencies: Communication, Critical Thinking, Historical/Societal Analysis, Ethical Reasoning and Action, Informational Literacy)

Grading Standard:

Students will be graded on attendance and participation, completion of assigned readings, quizzes, and written projects. See individual instructor's addendum for more specific information.

Course Content:

Students in ENGL 150 will read and discuss texts from African American writers from the 18th century through the 21st century. Emphasis will be on the historical, cultural, and literary context of these writings, including relevant biographical information about the authors. Students will need to write about the texts as well as discuss them in class. A field trip to Harlem may be offered as a voluntary educational experience. Texts are specified in the individual instructor's addendum.

Department Policies:

Attendance

Attendance is integral to student success in this course and impacts the final grade. Students are expected to participate in discussions, workshops, and related class work. It is of the utmost importance that students make an effort to attend every class.

Please review your individual instructor's addendum for specific information and clarification regarding the attendance policy.

Academic Dishonesty/Plagiarism

In an academic community, nothing is taken more seriously than intellectual honesty. As a Brookdale student and member of the community of scholars, students must take responsibility for their own work and refrain from taking credit for someone else's intellectual property. Intentionally submitting the work of another in a way that represents it as one's own constitutes plagiarism. This can result in the student's grade being lowered, failure of the course, and/or reporting to the appropriate academic officer.

Submission of Work

Students are expected to meet all deadlines and due dates for assignments. Instructors are under no obligation to accept late work.

Behavior

Students must act in a manner appropriate to a college classroom. Any behavior that interferes with other students' ability to do their work will not be tolerated.

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Computers & Computer Access

Computers are used to help facilitate the writing process. Intentional misuse or mistreatment is strictly forbidden. Computers are available for student use outside the classroom in the Bankier Library and The Writing Center (LAH118).

College Policies:

As an academic institution, Brookdale facilitates the free exchange of ideas, upholds the virtues of civil discourse, and honors diverse perspectives informed by credible sources. Our College values all students and strives for inclusion and safety regardless of a student's disability, age, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, country of origin, immigration status, religious affiliation, political orientation, socioeconomic standing, and veteran status. For additional information, support services, and engagement opportunities, please visit www.brookdalecc.edu/support.

For information regarding:

- Brookdale's Academic Integrity Code
- Student Conduct Code
- Student Grade Appeal Process

Please refer to the **[BCC STUDENT HANDBOOK AND BCC CATALOG](#)**.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT/LABS:

See the Tutoring Center for information <https://www.brookdalecc.edu/academic-tutoring/>.

Writing Center

At the Writing Center, students can work one-on-one with a writing consultant at any stage of the writing process, from drafting, to revision, to proofreading. Writing Center appointments can help students clarify their main points, incorporate feedback, and address grammar and mechanical issues in the context of their own writing.

The Writing Center is located on the Lincroft campus in Room 118 Larrison Hall (732-224-2941). Hours are posted on the Writing Center website.

Writing consultants are also available at the Higher Education Centers.

See more about the Writing Center here <https://www.brookdalecc.edu/academic-institutes-and-departments/humanities-institute/writing-center/>.

NOTIFICATION FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Brookdale Community College offers reasonable accommodations and/or services to persons with disabilities. Students with disabilities who wish to self-identify must contact the Accessibility Services Office at 732-224-2730 (voice) or 732-842-4211 (TTY) to provide appropriate documentation of the disability and request specific accommodations or services. If a student qualifies, reasonable accommodations and/or services, which are appropriate for the college level and are recommended in the documentation, can be approved.

Mental Health:

24/7/365 Resources:

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- Monmouth Medical Center Psychiatric Emergency Services at **(732) 923-6999**
- 2nd Floor Youth Helpline – Available to talk with you about any problem, distress, or hardship you are experiencing. Call or text at **888-222-2228** or visit the website at <https://www.2ndfloor.org/>

Faculty Counselors:

- Students who need to make an appointment with a faculty counselor can do so by calling 732-224-1822 (non-emergency line) during business hours. Faculty counselors are licensed mental health professionals who can assist students and refer them to other mental health resources.

DIVERSITY STATEMENT:

Brookdale Community College fosters an environment of inclusion and belonging. We promote a safe and open culture, encourage dialogue respecting diverse perspectives informed by credible sources, and uphold the virtues of civil discourse. We celebrate all identities with the understanding that ultimately, diversity, equity, and inclusion cultivate belonging and make us a stronger Brookdale community.