Mohawk Valley Community College

Utica and Rome, New York

Course Outline

EN 255 World Literature 1 C-3, Cr-3

Course Description:

This course is a survey of the world literature masterpieces in English translation from the ancient times through the Renaissance. Among the major writers and texts studied are Homer, Sophocles, Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, Dante, The Bhagwad Gita, the Jataka, Machiavelli, Rabelais, Cervantes, and Shakespeare.

Prerequisite: EN102 English 2: Ideas & Values in Literature.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon the successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

• Utilize reading comprehension and critical thinking skills to analyze a variety of literary works in world literature from the ancient times through the Renaissance.

• Demonstrate an awareness of the variety of genre and critical perspectives in world literature.

• Demonstrate an understanding of the importance of a literary work in the areas of theme, use of language, form, innovation, and relation to culture, etc.

• Demonstrate an awareness of how social, cultural, aesthetic, and intellectual issues raised in the class are relevant to our lives.

• Demonstrate how common or culturally specific heritages, perspectives, histories, and/or common belief systems influence the authors and their literary works.

• Complete a documented research paper that demonstrates analytical thinking skills and utilizes research documentation.

Major Topics:

• Homer

• Sophacles

• Socrates

• Plato

• Aristotle

• Dante

• The Bhagwad Gita

• The Jataka

• Machiavelli

• Rabelais

• Cervantes

• Shakespeare

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