ENG 204 World Literature: 18th Century to Today

General Information

**Date** December 14th, 2022  
**Author** Curtis Nehring Bliss  
**Department** Humanities  
**Course Prefix** ENG  
**Course Number** 204  
**Course Title** World Literature: 18th Century to Today

Course Information

**Catalog Description**  This course is a survey of important literary works from cultures around the world from the eighteenth century through the present day. This course fulfills the outcome for SUNY General Education in the Humanities.

**Credit Hours** 3  
**Lecture Contact Hours** 3  
**Lab Contact Hours** 0  
**Other Contact Hours** 0  
**Grading Scheme** Letter

Prerequisites

ENG 102

Co-requisites

None

First Year Experience/Capstone Designation

This course DOES NOT satisfy the outcomes applicable for status as a FYE or Capstone.
This course is designated as satisfying a requirement in the following SUNY Gen Ed category
Humanities

Institutional Learning Outcomes Addressed by the Course
Vitality, Inquiry, and Interconnectedness

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Recognize and analyze the nuance and complexity of meaning by critically reading and reflecting on a variety of texts which may include images, epic and lyric poetry, fiction, and drama from the 18th century to today.

2. Analyze the ways literature is embedded in cultural, historical, linguistic, and ethical contexts

3. Explain the interconnectedness of world cultures from the 18th century to today by analyzing how complex networks of social structures create and perpetuate the dynamics of power, privilege, oppression, and opportunity.

4. Recognize and articulate the historical and contemporary societal factors that shape the development of their personal as well as group identities involving race, class, and gender.

Outline of Topics Covered

In this second of two courses designed to explore world literature, students will read a variety of literary texts, encountering diverse voices and genres from around the globe in order to better appreciate, understand, and analyze them. Literary works will be considered within their historical, socio-cultural contexts with an emphasis on noting cross-cultural influences and engaging personally with diverse texts.

The following is a list of general topics and subtopics which are likely to be covered.

Primary Texts

- Representing multiple genres including personal essay, short fiction, novel, poetry, and drama
- Representing voices from around the globe
Literary Elements

- Literary elements such as theme, motif, character development, symbolism, allusion
- The role of translation
- The process of adaptation between genres

Socio-cultural Context

- Sociological values such as the role of women, social class, and cultural hierarchy
- Cultural values such as the value placed on the literary arts and the biography of the author

Historical-political Context

- Political structures of the time such as local and national governments, relationships with neighboring nations, and economic stability
- Specific historical events such as war, drought or famine, territorial expansion, treatment of the labor class, government overthrow or other shift in leadership

World culture

- Connections, influences, and migrations from and on other world literatures
- Comparisons and contrasts with contemporary Western and personal perspectives