



BAKER COLLEGE
STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

**LIT2050 Introduction to Literature: World Masterpieces
and Critical Approaches**
3 Semester Hours

Student Learning Outcomes & Enabling Objectives

1. Examine authors and texts that form the foundations of literature
 - a. Discuss seminal authors and texts.
 - b. Distinguish the genres common to foundational literature including:
 - i. creation myths
 - ii. religious texts
 - iii. short stories
 - iv. poetry, including Epics
 - v. drama, including tragedy and comedy
 - vi. novel
 - c. Appraise the use of literary devices in early world literature.
 - d. Evaluate the characteristics of foundational literature.
2. Analyze the interplay and influence between culture and literature.
 - a. Examine the social, cultural, and historical context of foundational literature.
 - b. Correlate the transmission of foundational literature from culture to culture to the continued relevance of the texts over time.
3. Explore dominant themes of foundational literature such as:
 - a. universal human experience
 - b. community vs individual reliance
 - c. isolation
 - d. discovery
 - e. knowledge
 - f. morality
 - g. societal roles
 - h. cultural taboos
 - i. reality, fantasy, the afterlife
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the development of literary criticism.
 - a. Describe the origins and purpose of literary criticism
 - b. Illustrate the mutual influence between criticism and literature.
5. Examine the relationships between and amongst texts.

- a. Identify the origin of classical allusion.
 - b. Assess how texts reference, influence, and otherwise shape each other.
6. Demonstrate an understanding of reading and writing about literature
 - a. Choose close reading strategies to support understanding and analysis of literature
 - b. Articulate ideas using appropriate literary terminology
 - c. Use conventions of writing about literature with regard to tense, titles, and naming
 - d. Apply techniques of literary analysis in original written compositions
-

Big Ideas and Essential Questions

Big Ideas

- Foundational Literature
- Influence and impact beyond language, geography, and culture
- Cultural Context
- Theme and Genre
- Development of Literary Criticism
- Seminal Authors and Texts
- Interpretive Reading
- Critical Analysis
- Writing About Literature

Essential Questions

1. Why do we consider some texts foundational, i.e. the basis of all literature?
2. How are these texts both contributions to and constructions of cultural identities?
3. How and why did the major literary genres develop?
4. How does a text transcend time and place to confront dilemmas of the human condition?
5. Why did literary criticism develop?
6. How do specific considerations for reading and writing about literature affect the understanding of and communication about literature?

These SLOs are not approved for experiential credit.

Effective: Fall 2017