



BAKER COLLEGE
STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

LIT4210 Contemporary Literature
3 Semester Hours

Student Learning Outcomes & Enabling Objectives

1. Analyze contemporary literature through the lenses of critical theory.
 - a. Evaluate and choose appropriate critical lens/lenses.
 - b. Apply appropriate lens/lenses to the text.
 - c. Compose original arguments, which integrate critical lens/lenses and scholarly resources.
 2. Analyze the recurrent themes in contemporary literature.
 - a. Identify recurrent themes including:
 - i. Alienation
 - ii. Disillusionment
 - iii. Isolation
 - iv. Hybrid identity
 - v. Reaction to social, economic, and political forces
 - b. Interpret trends that led to recurrent themes.
 3. Evaluate the major contemporary literary movements of Modernism, PostColonialism, Postmodernism, and Magical Realism.
 - a. Differentiate between genres characteristic of the movements.
 - b. Examine commonly used literary devices and their application within the movements.
 - c. Explain the interrelationships between cultural context and movements.
 4. Compare and contrast prominent authors and texts of the period.
 - a. Demonstrate an understanding of what qualifies an author as a critical contributor to the canon.
 - b. Evaluate the relationship between language and power as used in contemporary literature.
 - c. Recognize the exclusionary nature of the western canon.
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Big Ideas and Essential Questions

Big Ideas

- Cultural/Hybrid identity
- Literary device application
- Language and Power
- Theme and Genre
- Contemporary literary movements
- Schools of criticism
- Seminal Authors and Texts

Essential Questions

1. How can the lenses of criticism be applied to create an understanding of contemporary literature?
2. How does contemporary literature reveal the identity that results from the relationship between one's indigenous pre-colonial culture and an imposing colonial culture?
3. How do authors use theme and genre to deal with social, cultural and political issues?
4. How does the application of literary devices affect meaning in contemporary literature?
5. Why are some authors and texts considered more influential than others?
6. What are the intersections between language and power and how are they demonstrated in contemporary literature?
7. How and why did the major movements of the period develop?

These SLOs are not approved for experiential credit.

Effective: Fall 2017