

**UNIVERSIDAD DE COSTA RICA
ESCUELA DE LENGUAS MODERNAS
BACHILLERATO EN INGLÉS
SECCION DE LITERATURA INGLESA**

Proposed Course Outline

Introduction to English Literature LM-1237	Pre-requisite: LM-1002
Credits: 3	Academic Cycle: III
Hours: 9 Class Work: 3 Out-of Class Work: 6	Type: Elective course of study for the B.A. degree in English
Level: 2nd year	Prof: Ileana Molina E. Office: 342 LE E-mail: molinae3@gmail.com

I. Course Description

This course is the first of the six courses which comprise the optional area of literary specialization within the Bachelor of Arts in English (Bachillerato en Inglés) program. It is a three-credit course, with three hours weekly. This course is designed to initiate students into the area of literary studies in English by providing them with exposure to basic literary texts and principles appropriate to their linguistic level.

II. Course Objectives

1. General Objectives:

1. Initiate examination of the field of literary studies in English.
2. Foment intellectual curiosity about and interest in literary studies.
3. Develop awareness of the potential, complexity, and rewards of literary studies in English.
4. Foment critical thinking and linguistic fluency in English.

2. Specific Objectives:

1. Identify and differentiate given basic genres, structures, and types.
2. Formulate and articulate basic interpretations of simple literary texts in terms of message.
3. Identify basic characteristic of narrative characters and poetic persons.
4. Recognize basic figurative uses of language such as metaphor, simile, hyperbole.
5. Respond creatively to literary texts in oral and written form.
6. Enhance competence and performance in English through recognition and assimilation of basic literary language structures.

III. Contents

- A. Introduction to literary studies
 - 1. Definition of literature
 - 2. Basic literary genres
- B. Introduction to Fiction
 - 1. Short story
 - 2. Structural elements
 - 3. Literary analysis
- C. Introduction to Poetry
 - 1. Figures of speech
 - 2. Symbolism
 - 3. Language
 - 4. Imagery
- D. Introduction to Drama
 - 1. Elements of drama
 - 2. Dramatization

IV. Methodology

Students will be provided with basic introductory information on standard literary genres. The professor will explain the basic principles, characteristics, and concepts in class and guide students in the comprehension and application of that information. Student preparation for and participation in discussions are fundamental since the free exchange of ideas and opinions both facilitates and enhances assimilation of the course content. Students will share their ideas individually and in groups, in both oral and written form. A variety of activities – including oral presentations, group discussions, dramatization and written responses- will be employed to foment understanding and enjoyment of the subject matter.

V. Evaluation

Evaluation is continuous in the sense that daily student participation will be taken into consideration. The final grade will be determined on the following basis:

- 1. Out-of-class assignments.....10%
- 2. 3 Quizzes.....18%
- 3. 2 group oral presentations.....12%
- 4. Mid-term exam.....30%
- 5. Final Exam..... 30 %

VI. Bibliography

- Cottrel, June. *Creative Drama in the Classroom*. Lincolnwood, IL: National Textbook Company, 1989.
- Cummings, E. E. *A Selection of Poems*. New York: Harcourt, Inc., 1965
- Guth, Hans. P and Gabriele L. Rico. *Discovering Literature*. 2nd ed. New Jersey: Prentice Hall, 1997.
- Kennedy, X. J. and Dana Gioia. *An Introduction to Poetry*. 9th ed. New York: Longman, 1998.
- Mayes, Frances. *The Discovery of Poetry*. New York: Harcourt, Inc., 2001.
- Nims, John Frederick and David Mason. *Western Wind*. 4th ed. New York: McGraw-Hill, 2000.

VII. Other Sources

In addition, a selection of prose narrative forms will be prepared by the professor. This compilation will be sold at *Copymundo*.

VIII. Tentative Chronogram

MARCH

Tuesday 14

Introduction: What is literature?

Tuesday 21: Narrative

Understanding the short story

Narrative elements: plot and setting

- **Assignment 1:** write a **paragraph** about your experience of literature (include a personal definition) 2%

Tuesday 28

Narrative elements: character and theme

APRIL

Tuesday 4

Narrative elements: Point of view and symbol

- **Quiz 1**

Tuesday 11

No Class (Easter Week)

Tuesday 18:

- **Oral presentation 1:** analyzing a narrative text in a creative way.
- **Assignment 2:** changing the point of view of a story (3%)

Tuesday 25: Poetry

Article: What is poetry?

The Image: The Role of the Senses

Semana U

MAY

Tuesday 2

What's It Like? : Simile, Metaphor and Other Figures:

Literary texts: "The Purse-Seine," "My Life Had Stood—A Loaded Gun,"

"Metaphors," "Question," "Sonnet 18," "Anger."

- **Assignment 3:** write a haiku about your childhood using the images studied (include an illustration) (2%)

Tuesday 9: Synesthesia, Allusion and Personification

Symbol: A World of Meanings

Machine for Magic: The Fresh Usual Words

- **Quiz 2**

Tuesday 16: Midterm Exam

Tuesday 23: Oral presentation 2: working with poetry (applying literary figures to a song)

Tuesday 30: Drama

Guide to play analysis and analysis of *Medusa's Tale*

JUNE

Tuesday 6: Play analysis: *Real Women Have Curves*

Tuesday 13: play analysis (cont)

- **Quiz 3**

Tuesday 20: Movie

- **Assignment 4:** letter to a play character (3%)

Tuesday 27: Final Exam

July

Final grades and ampliacion exam