



CHRISTIAN HERITAGE COLLEGE

EL110

THE WESTERN LITERARY TRADITION

This sample unit outline is provided by CHC for prospective and current students to assist with unit selection.

Elements of this outline which may change with subsequent offerings of the unit include Content, Required Texts, Recommended Readings and details of the Assessment Tasks.

Students who are currently enrolled in this unit should obtain the outline for the relevant semester from the unit lecturer.

Unit code	EL110
Unit name	The Western Literary Tradition
Associated higher education awards	Bachelor of Education (Primary) Bachelor of Education (Secondary) Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Education (Secondary)
Duration	One semester
Level	Introductory
Core/Elective	Required for a major or minor in English
Weighting	Unit credit points: 10 Course credit points: Bachelor of Education (Primary) 320 Bachelor of Education (Secondary) 320 Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Education (Secondary) 320
Delivery mode	Face-to-face on-site
Student workload	<i>Face-to-face on site</i> Contact hours 30 hours Reading, study and assignment preparation 120 hours TOTAL 150 hours Students requiring additional English language support are expected to undertake an additional one hour per week.
Prerequisites/ co-requisites/ restrictions	Nil
Rationale	It is valuable for the student of literature to have a broad historical understanding of the periods and influences which have shaped the Western literary tradition. Such an understanding is essential to provide a framework within which to appreciate the different conventions and characteristics of the major literary periods. The recognition that writers do not create works of literature in a vacuum, but respond to particular political, social, intellectual and religious influences, is also significant for a robust understanding of literature. It is important that students recognise the contribution that Christianity has made to the Western literary tradition in the past in order to recognise the need to reclaim literature as an important area of Christian endeavour in the present. This is especially true given the increasing despair of modern literature, as humankind has moved further away from an integrated worldview to the disordered, pluralistic view of the modern world. This unit is foundational for students of English literature as the knowledge and skills involved in the understanding of and reflection upon the development of the Western literary tradition is basic to an appreciation of English literature as a whole.
Prescribed text(s)	Abrams, M.H. (Ed.). (2012). <i>The Norton anthology of English literature: In 2 volumes.</i> (9th ed.). New York, NY: Norton. A selection of two extended pieces of fiction from differing eras of the Western Literary tradition. Selected readings will be available via the Moodle™ site for this unit.

<p>Recommended readings</p>	<p>Books</p> <p>Blamires, H. (1984). <i>A short history of English literature</i> (2nd ed.). London, UK: Methuen.</p> <p>Bloom, H. (1995). <i>The Western canon: The books and school of the ages</i>. New York, NY: Riverhead Books.</p> <p>Chandker, J. & McLane, M.N. (Eds.). (2008). <i>The Cambridge companion to British romantic poetry</i>. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.</p> <p>Cohen, J.M. (2008). <i>A history of Western literature from medieval epic to modern poetry</i>. New York, NY: Transaction Publishers.</p> <p>Guite, M. (2012). <i>Faith, hope and poetry: theology and the poetic imagination</i>. Farnham, Surrey, UK: Ashgate Publishing.</p> <p>Marcus, M. & Nichols, P. (Eds.). (2012). <i>The Cambridge history of twentieth-century English literature (reprint ed.)</i>. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.</p> <p>Patke, R. S. (2006). <i>Postcolonial poetry in English</i>. New York, NY: Oxford University Press.</p> <p>Pierce, P. (Ed.) (2009). <i>The Cambridge history of Australian literature</i>. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.</p> <p>Ryken, L. (2000). <i>Windows to the world: Literature in Christian perspective</i>. (2nd ed.). Dallas, TX: Probe.</p> <p>Journals and Periodicals</p> <p><i>Appositions: Studies in Renaissance/Early Modern Literature and Culture</i></p> <p><i>International Journal of Applied Linguistics and English Literature</i></p> <p><i>International Journal of English and Literature</i></p> <p><i>International Journal of English Language and Literature Studies</i></p> <p>In addition to the resources above, students should have access to a Bible, preferably a modern translation such as The Holy Bible: The New International Version 2011 (NIV) or The Holy Bible: New King James Version (NKJV).</p> <p>These and other translations may be accessed free on-line at http://www.biblegateway.com. The Bible app from LifeChurch.tv is also available free for smart phones and tablet devices.</p>
<p>Specialist resource requirements</p>	<p>Nil</p>
<p>Content</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Medieval literature 2. Sixteenth century poetry 3. Seventeenth century poetry 4. Romantic poetry 5. The rise of the novel 6. Victorian poetry 7. The Victorian novel - Charles Dickens 8. World War I poetry 9. Modernist poetry and prose 10. Post-modernism
<p>Learning outcomes</p>	<p>On completion of this unit, students will have provided evidence that they have:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. developed knowledge and understanding of the historical development of the major literary forms and identified their essential characteristics; 2. analysed the basic components of literary texts; 3. analysed the response of writers to major political, social, cultural, religious and intellectual trends as reflected in their works of literature;

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. appreciated the Western literary tradition and its contributions to modern humanity's understanding of the values and purposes governing human life and society; 5. applied the skills of literary criticism in a range of literary contexts; 6. evaluated the extent to which literary texts reflect and/or challenge aspects of a Christian worldview; and 7. communicated at an appropriate tertiary standard: with special attention to design elements, grammars, usage, logical relations, style, referencing and presentation.
Assessment tasks	<p>Task 1: Tutorial Folio</p> <p>Word Length/Duration: 1500 words</p> <p>Weighting: 30%</p> <p>Learning Outcomes: 1-3, 5, 7</p> <p>Assessed: Week 6</p> <p>Task 2: Seminar</p> <p>Word Length/Duration: 15-20 minutes</p> <p>Weighting: 40%</p> <p>Learning Outcomes: 1-7</p> <p>Assessed: Weeks 7-10</p> <p>Task 3: Examination</p> <p>Word Length/Duration: 3 hours</p> <p>Weighting: 30%</p> <p>Learning Outcomes: 1-5, 7</p> <p>Assessed: Week 16</p>
Unit summary	<p>This unit explores the historical background of Western literature and considers how that literature has been affected by historical events and philosophies. It encourages students to gain knowledge and understanding of literature from medieval times to the contemporary European world, along with a recognition of the influence of Christianity on both the societies and the literature over this period.</p>