New York City College of Technology
The City University of New York
English Department

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Learning Outcomes
Law Through Literature — ENG 3401

ENG 3401 Fulfills Individual and Society Category for Pathways

3 credits, 3 hours
Prerequisite: ENG 1121 or ENG 2000-level course

Course Description

An exploration of concepts of justice, higher law, customary law and written law expressed through works of fiction and non-fiction. The course seeks to enhance the student's sensitivity to issues of ethics, gender bias and class consciousness as they affect the administration of justice. Readings improve communication skills and strengthen legal skills of identifying, articulating and locating problems in the context of underlying legal issues. Written assignments emphasize expository writing skills.

General Education Learning Outcomes
Students will be able to

- Gather, interpret, and assess information from a variety of sources and points of view.
- Evaluate evidence and arguments critically or analytically.
- Produce well-reasoned written or oral arguments using evidence to support conclusions.

Pathways Learning Outcomes
Individual and Society
A course in this area must meet <u>at least three of the following additional learning outcomes</u>. A student will:

- Identify and apply the fundamental concepts and methods of a discipline or interdisciplinary field exploring the relationship between the individual and society, including, but not limited to, anthropology, communications, cultural studies, history, journalism, philosophy, political science, psychology, public affairs, religion, and sociology.
- Examine how an individual's place in society affects experiences, values, or choices.
- Articulate and assess ethical views and their underlying premises.
- Articulate ethical uses of data and other information resources to respond to problems and questions.
- Identify and engage with local, national, or global trends or ideologies, and analyze their impact on individual or collective decision-making.

Course – Specific Learning Outcomes
Students will be able to

● summarize the main ideas and themes of the literary works assigned, in class discussions, analytical essays and essay exams.

● quote, paraphrase or summarize, and analyze specific passages in the text to support interpretations of the main ideas and themes and explain why these passages are important to an understanding of each work, in analytical essays and essay exams.

● trace the relationship among literary works and their cultural and intellectual foundations in the legal codes of and practices of specific societies.

- analyze the structuring of character, character conflicts, human values, and religious, and/or mythological features of texts and show how these reflect the cultural and intellectual life of various eras as reflected in the legal codes and practices of specific societies.

- **examine the behavior of characters in literary texts and narrative representation of these characters' behavior, as** reflections of the social and legal ethics in different societies.

- show how narrative or organizational strategies help to enrich the meaning and aesthetic value of texts.

- compare and contrast works of literary periods, showing influence of earlier works on later works by the same or different authors.

- analyze aspects of language, including figures of speech, to show how they enrich the meaning and/or literary merit of the work.

- make critical judgments, by interpret, analyze, and evaluate literary works from different cultures, using established critical approaches.

- research previous interpretations of literary texts and legal and social contexts of the texts and the issues they address.

- incorporate the study of critical, biographical, or historical information into essays and exams, following the principles of good writing presented in ENG 1101, including use of the MLA-style documentation.

- make oral presentations based on written essay, reflecting knowledge of literary texts, of related legal issues, and of public speaking techniques.

Assessment Methods

- Reading and discussion will be measured through grading of discussion question responses and oral participation.
- Written analysis of texts will be measured through grading of essays.
- Knowledge of texts will be measured through quizzes and exams.
- Oral Presentations will be measured through peer and instructor evaluation of content and public speaking technique

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