

**PALOMAR COLLEGE**  
**COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD FOR**  
**DEGREE CREDIT COURSE**

X Transfer Course X A.A. Degree applicable course  
(check all that apply)

**COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE:** English 280                      Women and Literature

**UNIT VALUE:** 3

**MINIMUM NUMBER OF SEMESTER HOURS:** 48

**BASIC SKILLS REQUIREMENTS:** Appropriate language skills

**ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS:**

**PREREQUISITE:** Eligibility for English 100

**COREQUISITE:**

**RECOMMENDED PREPARATION:**

**SCOPE OF COURSE:**

Examines from a multicultural perspective women's relationship to literature. Examines what it means to be a "woman" writer, exploring historical and cultural conditions that have shaped women's relationship to literature. Explores gender stereotypes in literature by and about women and analyzes the ways in which women writers engage with, resist and/or subvert dominant ideas about gender in literature.

**SPECIFIC COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

The successful student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge about the diverse traditions of women's writing.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the way in which the works of many women writers, including African-American, Native American, and other minority women, were excluded from the standard literary canon.
3. Analyze representations of women in literature and identify gender stereotypes

4. Examine literature's role in the construction of gender.
5. Identify cultural and historical factors that have influenced women writers, including class, race and ethnicity, nationality, sexuality.
6. Identify recurrent themes, patterns, and motifs in the work of women writers.
7. Analyze how gender identity has affected language and literary forms used by women writers.
8. Analyze how different theoretical perspectives influence the reading and interpretation of a literary work and demonstrate an awareness of the importance of particular kinds of theory, especially feminist theory, in the study of women's literature.

**CONTENT IN TERMS OF SPECIFIC BODY OF KNOWLEDGE:**

- I. The study of representations of women in literature and the ways in which literature participates in the production of gender role.
- II. The study of differences among women writers, such as those of race and ethnicity, class, and sexuality, and ways in which these differences influence writing by women.
- III. The study of cultural, social and historical forces that have both restricted and enabled women's writing, their choice of subject matters and their publishing opportunities.
- IV. The study of women as writers of literature, including authors such as:
  - A. Behn
  - B. Austen
  - C. C. Bronte
  - D. E. Bronte
  - E. Rossetti
  - F. Shelley
  - G. Dickinson
  - H. Eliot
  - I. Cather
  - J. Woolf
  - K. Stein
  - L. Morrison
  - M. Lorde
  - N. Erdrich
  - O. Atwood
  - P. Silko
  - Q. Marshall
  - R. Anzaldua
  - S. Kincaid
  - T. Emecheta
  - U. Plath

## **REQUIRED READING:**

Selections from a standard anthology on women's literature or individual works that might be included in such an anthology:

Behn, Aphra. Oroonoko. Boston: Bedford, 2000.

Bronte, Charlotte. Jane Eyre. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 1996.

Cisneros, Sandra. The House on Mango Street. New York: Vintage, 1989.

Deshazar, Mary K., ed. The Longman Anthology of Women's Literature. New York: Longman, 2000.

Emecheta, Buchi. The Joys of Motherhood. New York: Braziller, 1980.

Gilbert, Sandra M. and Susan Gubar, eds. The Norton Anthology of Women's Literature. New York: Norton, 1996.

Hurston, Zora Neale. Their Eyes Were Watching God. New York: Perennial, 1998.

Kincaid, Jamaica. The Autobiography of My Mother. New York: Farrar Straus, 1996.

Kingston, Maxine Hong. The Woman Warrior. New York: Vintage, 1976.

Morison, Toni. Beloved. New York: Knopf, 1987.

Silko, Leslie. Almanac of the Dead: A Novel. New York: Simon and Schuster, 1991.

Wharton, Edith. The House of Mirth. New York: Penguin, 1985.

Woolf, Virginia. To the Lighthouse. London: Hogarth, 1990.

## **SUGGESTED READING:**

Critical and biographical writings chosen to supplement the required text(s) such as:

Anzaldúa, Gloria. Borderlands/La Frontera: The New Meztiza. San Francisco: Aunt Lute Books, 1999.

Armstrong, Nancy. Desire and Domestic Fiction: A Political History of the Novel. New York: Oxford, UP, 1995.

Ghosh, Bishupriya, Brinda Bose, Chandra T. Mohanty. Interventions: Feminist Dialogues on Third World Women's Literature and Film. New York: Garland, 1996.

Hooks, Bell. Outlaw Culture: Resisting Representations. New York: Routledge, 1996.

Nussbaum, Felicity. Torrid Zones: Maternity, Sexuality, and Empire in Eighteenth-Century English Narratives. Baltimore: John Hopkins UP, 1995.

Radway, Janice A. Reading the Romance: Women, Patriarchy and Popular Literature. Chapel Hill: U. of North Carolina, 1991.

Tate, Claudia. Domestic Allegories of Political Desire: The Black Heroine's Text at the Turn of the Century. New York: Oxford UP, 1993.

Trinh, T. Minh-Ha. Woman, Native, Other. Bloomington: Indiana UP, 1989.

Woolf, Virginia. A Room of One's Own. New York: Harcourt, 1957.

**REQUIRED WRITING:** A minimum of 10 to 15 typed pages of written work primarily based on the readings (subjects to be discussed with the instructor)

### **OUTSIDE ASSIGNMENTS:**

Outside work involves reading the texts, preparing for examinations and researching and writing papers.

**Students are expected to spend a minimum of three hours per unit per week in class and on outside assignments, prorated for short-term classes.**

### **INSTRUCTIONAL METHODOLOGY:**

**Check all that apply:**

- lecture
- laboratory
- lecture-laboratory combination
- directed study

### **DISTANCE LEARNING:**

**This course may be offered as a distance learning course and meets Title 5 regulations 55370, 55372, 55374, 55376, 55378, and 55380.**

Yes  No

**If yes, check all that apply:**

- Television Course (Video one-way, e.g. ITV, video cassette, etc.)
- Online Course (Text one-way, e.g. newspaper, correspondence, electronic file, etc.)
- Two-Way Video Conferencing (Two-way interactive video and audio)
- One-Way Video Conferencing (One-way interactive video and two-way interactive audio)
- Computer Assisted Instruction (A specialized form of mediated instruction relying primarily on student access to information and prepared lessons or teaching materials through a computer terminal, but not under immediate supervision of a qualified instructor.)

**GRADING POLICY AND STANDARDS** (include methods of determining whether the stated objectives have been met by students):

Papers	40-70%
Exam(s)	30-60%
Class participation	up to 10%

**IS COURSE REPEATABLE FOR REASON(S) OTHER THAN DEFICIENT GRADE?**

Yes \_\_\_ No X Number of times course may be taken for credit: \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, identify specific provision of Title 5 Division 2 section(s), 55761-55763 and 58161 which qualifies course as repeatable:

**CONTACT PERSON: Pamela Mc Donough**

**SIGNATURES:**

SIGNATURES ON FILE
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