

Course Title	Women in Literature				
Course Code	LIT405				
Course Type	Compulsory				
Level	Bachelor (1 <sup>st</sup> cycle)				
Year / Semester	4 <sup>th</sup> Year / 8 <sup>th</sup> Semester				
Teacher's Name	TBA				
ECTS	6	Lectures / week	Up to 6 teleconferences	Laboratories / week	N/A
Course Purpose and Objectives	The course surveys the multi-faceted tradition of women's writings and the generic, geographical, ethnic and historical diversity of such writings. Innovative and influential prototypes in this tradition are singled out but selectivity of text and writer offers preferential options. Consideration is given to scholarly and critical viewpoints in women's writings and feminist studies generally.				
Learning Outcomes	<p>Upon successful completion of this course students should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appraise the vast variety of women's literary production from the Middle Ages to the Present Day</li> <li>• Examine important aspects of feminist literary criticism</li> <li>• Analyse literary works by women from a feminist critical perspective</li> <li>• Construct arguments relating to the course material based on their analysis from a feminist perspective</li> <li>• Interpret literary work by women paying attention to its relevant cultural context</li> <li>• Produce a longer research paper based on the course material</li> </ul>				
Prerequisites	LIT105, LIT200 or Consent of Instructor		Co-requisites	None	

Course Content	<p>The course commences with a brief survey over the history of women's literature and the challenges female writers had to face upon entering the male domain of literary production. Students are also introduced to basic concerns of feminist literary theory. The course continues with an overview of the Middle English - Renaissance period. Exceptional writers with representative positions in society are viewed; prime examples are Margery Kempe and Queen Elizabeth I. Socio/political developments in the 17th and 18th Century provide the background to important issues like urbanization and, most significantly, the emergence of a profession of letters for women writers. In this context, representative authors such as Anne Bradstreet and Aphra Behn are studied. In the late 18th Century students become acquainted with the visionary reforms of Mary Wollstonecraft which heralded sustained arguments for greater equality. Within the remarkable era of the 19th Century stand women novelists from the Old and New worlds. While Kate Chopin is studied as a representative example, separate attention is given to the issue of slavery and race relations articulated in the texts by Charlotte Perkins Gilman and Harriett Jacobs. The sustained and increasing demand for gender equality in the 20th Century in all domains of the private and the public sphere is examined. The 20th Century fiction writers and poets studied include Tillie Olsen, Adrienne Rich, Sylvia Plath, Maya Angelou and Virginia Woolf. For the 21st Century we examine Chimamanda Ngozie Adichie's work on feminist theory and Naomi Wolf's theories about beauty.</p>				
Teaching Methodology	E-Learning				
Bibliography	<p>Fausto-Sterling, A. (2000). <i>Sexing the body: gender politics and the construction of sexuality</i>. New York: Basic Books.</p> <p>Gilbert, S. and Gubar, S. (2000). <i>The Madwoman in the Attic. The Woman Writer and the Nineteenth-Century Literary Imagination</i>. Yale University Press.</p> <p>Moi, T. (2002). <i>Sexual/Textual Politics</i>. London &amp; New York: Routledge.</p> <p>'The Black Feminist Reader.' (2000). Ed. Joy James and T. Denean Sharpley-Whiting. Oxford and Massachusetts: Blackwell Publishers Ltd.</p> <p>Walters, M. (2005). <i>Feminism: A Very Short Introduction</i>. Oxford University Press</p>				
Assessment	<table border="1" data-bbox="532 1587 1230 1692"> <tr> <td data-bbox="540 1598 1101 1640">Final Examination</td> <td data-bbox="1109 1598 1222 1640">50%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="540 1650 1101 1692">Assignments/On-going Evaluation</td> <td data-bbox="1109 1650 1222 1692">50%</td> </tr> </table>	Final Examination	50%	Assignments/On-going Evaluation	50%
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Language	English				