

BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE
The City University of New York

Department of ENGLISH

Title of Course:	Course Number:	ENG 201
ENGLISH 201: COMPOSITION II	Class Hours per Week:	3
	Lab Hours:	0
	Credits:	3

A. Description

English 201 is a writing course that builds upon the skills introduced in English 101. In this course, literature is the field for the development of critical reading, critical thinking, independent research, and writing skills. Like English 101, it is required of all students at BMCC, no matter what their curriculum. Assignments move from close readings of literary texts in a variety of genres to analyses that introduce literary terms and broader contexts, culminating in independent research. Students are introduced to literary criticism and acquire basic knowledge necessary for the analysis of texts (including literary terms and some literary theory); they gain proficiency in library and Internet research; and they hone their skills as readers and writers. By the conclusion of English 201, students will be prepared for the analytical and research-based writing required in upper-level courses across the curriculum; they will also be prepared for advanced courses in literature.

B. Prerequisites and/or Corequisites

Satisfactory completion of English 101 or 100.5 or the equivalent from another college.

C. Student Outcomes

(Students will be able to)

- Acquire a critical appreciation of the nuances and complexities of a variety of literary texts
- Define and apply literary terms to analyses of texts within several literary genres
- Write at least four well-developed, thesis-driven argument and analysis essays that use evidence from literary texts and incorporate research, and are comprised of clear, grammatically-correct, effective sentences in well-organized paragraphs
- Frame research questions; plan research strategies; find and evaluate sources using the BMCC Library and the BMCC Library Website; and present the results of research
- Correctly use the conventions of MLA documentation and citation, including a “Works Cited” page

D. Required Texts and/or Supplementary Materials

The Composition Coordinator and Composition Committee maintain a list of recommended texts that is continually evaluated and updated. Most instructors assign a literature anthology or a

collection of separate paperback editions of fiction, drama, and poetry. Some instructors also assign a handbook, workbook, or rhetoric, usually one with a good section on research writing. Some currently recommended texts are the following:

Literature: A Pocket Anthology, Gwynn (Longman: Penguin Academics)

Literature: Options for Reading, Daiker, Hayes & Wallace (HarperCollins)

Heath Introduction to Literature, Landy (Heath)

Literature and Society, Annas and Rosen (Prentice Hall)

Literature and the Writing Process, McMahon, Day & Funk (MacMillan)

E. Evaluation and Requirements of Students

Students must write seven or eight essays of varying length, most of which will be longer than 500 words. One of these will be a research paper that incorporates methods of formal documentation in MLA or APA form. As in English 101, essays will go through a process of planning, writing, and revision. Some drafts may be written in class. Instructors will evaluate students' work on the basis of their writing, class participation, and any quizzes or examinations given by the instructors.

College Attendance Policy

At BMCC, the maximum number of absences is limited to one more hour than the number of hours a class meets in one week. For example, you may be enrolled in a three-hour class. In that class, you would be allowed 4 hours of absence (not 4 days). In the case of excessive absences, the instructor has the option to lower the grade or assign an F or WU grade.

Academic Adjustments for Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities who require reasonable accommodations or academic adjustments for this course must contact the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities. BMCC is committed to providing equal access to all programs and curricula to all students.

BMCC Policy on Plagiarism and Academic Integrity Statement

Plagiarism is the presentation of someone else's ideas, words or artistic, scientific, or technical work as one's own creation. Using the idea or work of another is permissible only when the original author is identified. Paraphrasing and summarizing, as well as direct quotations, require citations to the original source. Plagiarism may be intentional or unintentional. Lack of dishonest intent does not necessarily absolve a student of responsibility for plagiarism.

Students who are unsure how and when to provide documentation are advised to consult with their instructors. The library has guides designed to help students to appropriately identify a cited work. The full policy can be found on BMCC's web site, www.bmcc.cuny.edu. For further information on integrity and behavior, please consult the college bulletin (also available online).

F. Outline of Topics

Weeks 1-3: Literature and the Writing Process

- A. Review of the Writing Process
- B. Reading and Interpreting Literature
- C. Techniques and Problems in Writing about Literature

Weeks 4-6: Reading and Interpreting Fiction

- A. The Short Story
- B. The Novel
- C. Analyzing Character, Plot, and Theme

Weeks 7-9: Reading and Writing about Drama

- A. The Theater and Society
- B. Analyzing Characters and Conflicts
- C. Identifying Themes and Social Issues
- D. Psychological Analysis

Weeks 10-12: Reading and Writing about Poetry

- A. Poetic Forms and Terms
- B. Reading for Meaning
- C. Poetry and Language: Metaphor, Simile, and Rhythm

Weeks 13-14: The Research Paper

- A. Using the Library: the CUNY Plus System
- B. Organizing Material
- C. Using Sources: Paraphrasing, Quoting, Bibliography