

## Modern Literature

**Prerequisite:** English I

**Level:** 10<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> grade

**Credits:** 1.0 - English

**Additional:** This course meets the state mandated h.s. writing intensive requirement

This course is accepted as an English credit for college admission

This course is accepted as an English credit by the NCAA

### Course Description

The essence of this course is critical reading, writing, and discussion of selected modern novels, poems, and short stories. The term “modern” refers to the works from the time of Joseph Conrad and James Joyce to the present. We will examine the texts from multiple viewpoints, examining the works not only for themes, narratives, and style, but also through application of a variety of critical theories. The texts are multicultural and may contain mature themes and images. The texts, discussions, ideas, and format are different from those normally encountered in a high school classroom. You can expect to be challenged, enlightened, and offended by things you encounter in the course.

### Goals/Objectives

The primary goals of the course are to have students study the literature by reading all of the required texts, discussing the texts in depth during class, and writing critical responses in journals. An additional goal is for students to work cooperatively in small groups to research and report on one aspect of a book to bring greater textual understanding to the entire class. A final goal is to have students apply critical literary theory while working toward an understanding of the texts.

After successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Analyze literature for theme, select themes and justify their choices
- Interpret literary works
- Respond to literature in a discussion and writing sample
- Communicate ideas through research projects and oral presentations

### Teaching Methods

English II is part lecture and part class discussion. The understanding of literature is only improved by interaction with the opinions of others, so during literature units, class time relies very heavily upon student’s interactions and opinions

### Assessment

- Reading comprehension will be assessed through discussion and frequent quizzes

- Students will be called upon in class randomly to offer their insight on subjects
- Successful writing skills will be evaluated by the teacher as students adhere to the convention of written language as well as demonstrate the use of writing as a tool for communication.
- Successful group discussion behavior will be evaluated by the teacher according to demonstration of skillful paraphrasing and intelligent questioning

**Selected Texts:**

*Sold* by Patricia McCormick

2-3 other texts to be selected by the class