

# Syllabus: Introduction to Literature

Section: English

Semester: 01/02

Instructor: Ahmed Bouchemal

Groups: 1,2,3,4

## **Course Description**

Introduction to Literature is a course designed for first year students of English. The aim of the course is to let students be familiar with different genres of literature. It further helps students acquire different skills whereby they can critically analyze, understand and enjoy different forms of literary texts be they prose, poetry or drama. Based on theoretical and thematic analysis of notable literary texts, the students will be able to identify a range of narrative and thematic techniques that form the essential cognitive and structural basic of literature. The importance of the course does not evince only through conceptual analysis of literary genres but also revealed through an in-depth move to see the philosophical, social, psychological, ethical and historical background of literary text. To this point, the course intends to show how literature can be used to know about the inner and outer experiences of human beings.

## **Required Texts**

- 1- Kelly J Mays, "The Norton Introduction to Literature: Twelfth Edition
- 2- Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie , "The Thing Around Your Neck" (2009, Anchor)
- 3- Other materials will be provided by the instructor.

## **Semester Course Schedule**

### **Introduction**

What Is Literature?

What Does Literature Do?

What Are the Genres of Literature?

Why Read Literature?

Why Study Literature?

**Unit One: Fiction**

1- What is fiction?

2- Reading and Responding to Fiction

3- *Elements of Fiction*: Plot, Setting, Character, Point of View, Theme

4- Analysis of a Selected Short Story

### **Unit Two: Poetry**

1- What is Poetry?

2- Poetic Subgenres and Kinds

3- Responding to Poetry

4- Writing about Poetry

5- Analysis of a Selected Poem

### **Unit Three: Drama**

1- Defining Drama

2- Understanding the Text

3- Responding and Writing about Drama

4- Analysis of a Selected Dramatic Text