

ENG 244: Introduction to Asian-American Literature

Studies writings in English by American writers of Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Vietnamese, Filipino, Pacific Islander, and other Asian ancestry. Considers the writings in their historical, cultural, political, and social contexts. Emphasizes development of attitudes, values, and identities.

Course Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to:

- Recognize distinguishing characteristics of the various Asian-American literatures and relate the writings to their historical, cultural, and political contexts.
- Recognize the tensions in the writings between assimilationist attitudes and separatist attitudes, and between individual and representative presentations of Asian-American life.
- Explain how culturally based assumptions influence perceptions and behaviors in the writings, with particular attention to the function of stereotyped caricatures.
- Recognize the role of gender differences in writings produced by male Asian-American writers and by women Asian-American writers.
- Trace the incorporation of Asian folktales, stories, parables, proverbs, and other old-world literary material into Asian-American literatures.
- Recognize the role of audience, or intended readership, in the presentation of Asian-American life, and the assumptions about cultural differences the writers are making.

Credits: 4

Prerequisites: [WR 115](#) [RD 115](#) Equivalent placement test scores also accepted.

Program: [English](#)