

ENG4U: Unit 1 Outline

Unit : **21st Century Literacy Skills**
 Grade: 12 University
 Timeframe: 12 classes

Course Description

This course emphasizes the consolidation of literacy, communication, and critical and creative thinking skills necessary for success in academic and daily life. Students will analyse a range of challenging literary texts from various periods, countries, and cultures; interpret and evaluate informational and graphic texts; and create oral, written, and media texts in a variety of forms. An important focus will be on using academic language coherently and confidently, selecting the reading strategies best suited to particular texts and particular purposes for reading, and developing greater control in writing. The course is intended to prepare students for university, college, or the workplace.¹

Curriculum Expectations

See Ontario Curriculum Grades 11 and 12 English, 2007 for a complete outline of expectations.

Selected Overall Expectations

By the end of this course, students will:

- demonstrate an understanding of a variety of media texts. (MS 1)
- identify some media forms and explain how the conventions and techniques associated with them are used to create meaning. (MS 2)
- create a variety of media texts for different purposes and audiences, using appropriate forms, conventions, and techniques. (MS 3)
- reflect on and identify their strengths as media interpreters and creators, areas for improvement, and the strategies they found most helpful in understanding and creating media texts. (MS 4)

Selected Specific Expectations

Students will:

- explain how media texts are created to suit particular purposes and audiences (MS 1.1)
- interpret media texts, identifying and explaining the overt and implied messages they convey (MS 1.2)
- evaluate how effectively information, ideas, themes, issues and opinions are communicated in media texts (MS 1.3)
- explain, with increasing insight, why the same media text might prompt different responses from different audiences (MS 1.4)
- identify and analyse the perspective and/or biases evident in texts, commenting with understanding and increasing insight on any questions they may raise about beliefs, values, identity, and power (MS 1.5)
- identify characteristics of a variety of media forms and explain how they shape content and create meaning (MS 2.1)
- identify conventions and/or techniques used in a variety of media forms and explain how they convey meaning (MS 2.2)
- describe the topic, purpose, and audience for media texts they plan to create (MS 3.1)
- produce media texts for a variety of purposes and audiences, using appropriate forms, conventions and techniques (MS 3.4)
- explain which of a variety of strategies they found most helpful in interpreting and creating media texts, then evaluate their strengths and weaknesses as media interpreters and producers to help identify the steps they can take to improve their skills (MS 4.1)

¹ From *Ontario Curriculum Grades 11 and 12 English, 2007*.
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Assessment Tasks and Sequence

Major Expectations	Task	Unit Allocation (Marks)
MS 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6, 2.1, 2.2	Advertisement Analysis	10
MS 1.3, 3.4	Evaluating Online Resources	10
MS 3.4, MS 4.1	Reflective Blog Post	20
MS 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.5, 2.1, 2.2	News Analysis	10
MS 1, MS 2, MS 4	Unit Test	50
	Total Marks Available	100

Resources

Calendar Overview

January / February

Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday	
				2	Introductions	3	Blog Introduction First Blog Post	4	FCA Novel Selection (Library & Blog troubleshooting)
7		8	Media Literacy	9	Stereotypes/ Male Violence in Media	10	News Analysis	11	Online Safety & Wiki Finding and evaluating online resources Med Text Analysis due FCA Selection explanation due
14	Camera Angles / Comic Strips	15	Movie Analysis News Analysis due Online Resources and evaluations due	16	Movie Analysis Comic Strip Analysis due	17	Movie Analysis Blog Self-Eval Due	18	U1 Test