

ORAL LITERATURE IN AFRICA

Course Title	Oral Literature in Africa						
Course Code	EBS 308	Course Level:	300	Credit Value:	3	semester	1
Pre-requisite	Students have been introduced to aspects of Oral Literature in a previous course						
Course Delivery Modes	Face -to –face X	Practical Activity ²	Work-Based Learning ³	Seminars X	Independent Study X	e-learning opportunities X	Practicum ⁷
Course Description for significant learning (indicate NTS, NTECF, BSC GLE to be addressed)	<p>African folklore is a remarkable repository of information about African life, thinking and creativity. The field is very wide indeed, and the rich repertoire is often distinguished by a high literary quality. This is an introductory course to acquaint students with the topography of oral literature in Africa. The largest majority of illustrations will be taken from West African societies, particularly from Ghana. The types of tales and forms to be studied include Myth, Legend, Folktale, Proverb, Elegy, and Drum Language. Quite apart from introducing students to the typology and literary nature of oral literature in Africa, it is expected that in this course students will grow a positive awareness of the diversity and complexity of the African continent generally, and as well, acquire some familiarity with the often less accessible aspects of traditional culture, and the social concepts and tropes that govern the language and life of Ghana and the West African Region.</p> <p>The mode of delivery for this course will be discussions, group work, field study, audio-visual presentations and individual work. The course will be assessed through quizzes, group assignments, report writing and examinations. This course is in line with both NTS and NTECF requirements, particularly, NTS 2b, 2c, f, 3f, h, NTECF bullet 4, 5, 6 and 12, p. 25)</p>						

<p>Course Learning Outcomes ⁸: including INDICATORS for each learning outcome</p>	<p>Outcomes</p> <p>By the end of the course, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. describe an oral literary texts.(NTS 2c) 2. distinguish types of the genre. (NTS 2c) 3. examine the linguistic terseness of the text (NTS 2c, f) 4. compose oral literary text and perform. (NTS 2b, 2c, f, 3f, h, NTECF bullet 4) 5. discuss the socio-cultural relevance of oral literature (NTS 2b, 2c, f, 3f, h, NTECF bullet 4) 			<p>Indicators</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1. Guide students to explain oral literature 1.2. Mention examples of the genre 2.1. Discuss the different type of the genre 2.2. Describe the performance mode of each type. 3.1. Lead students to examine the literary quality of oral texts. 4.1. Group and guide students compose a type of oral text. 4.2 Task groups to perform their composition 4.3 Lead students to critique the text 5.1. Group students to discuss the instrumental functions of oral literature.
<p>Course Content</p>	<p>Units</p>	<p>Topics:</p>	<p>Sub-topics (if any):</p>	<p>Teaching and learning activities to achieve learning outcomes</p>
<p>1.</p>	<p>1.</p>	<p>1.Introduction</p>	<p>1.1.The Nature of Oral Literature</p> <p>1.2.Theoretical Considerations Culture as Modes of Communication</p>	<p>Guide students to brainstorm on the nature of “Oral” literature.</p> <p>Discuss the theoretical underpinnings of Oral literature</p>
<p>2.</p>	<p>2.</p>	<p>Performance mode</p>	<p>2.1. Narrative</p> <p>2.2. Drama</p> <p>2.3. Song</p> <p>2.4. Drum Language</p>	<p>Group students to brainstorm on the mode of delivery.</p> <p>Discuss the modes</p> <p>Group students to delivery examples of oral texts</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p>3.</p>			

	4	3.Oral Poetry	3.1.Panegyric Poetry 3.2.Poetry of Pejoratives 3.3.The Dirge 3.4.Elegiac Poetry 3.5.Libation Prayer Text	Task students in groups to observe the performances of oral poetry and report. Discuss the presentations. Discuss the features of each Discuss context and performance.
	5.	4.The Folktale	Types of the Folktale Long Prose Narratives (Epic, Legend) Proverb Primal Myth and Etiology Tale Trickster Tale	Guide students to link tales to prose texts. Discuss the elements of each genre Provide sampled text (oral) .Lead students to discuss the features Provide sampled text (oral) .Lead students to discuss the features
	6.	The Tale Type in Modern Ghanaian Theatre	Dilemma Tale <i>Aidoo's Dilemma of a Ghost</i> <i>Sutherland's The Marriage of Anansewa</i> "By the Fire Side"	Group students to read texts or watch videos Lead them to discuss the nature of tales or performance. Lead students to discuss the relationship between orality and written texts. Guide students to discuss the instrumental functions of oral literature
		Response	Movies based on Oral Literature	Task each group to perform a type oral text and perform.
			Evaluation	
			Performance	
Course Assessment Components ⁹ : (Educative	Component 1: Formative assessment (40%) Summary of assessment methods: Individual assignments- general knowledge on the nature of oral literature ((10%); group performance- (10%) and a quiz – textual analysis of a texts (10%) class participation (10%) Assessing Learning Outcomes: 1, 2, 3, and 4.			

assessment of, for and as learning)	Component 2: Summative assessment: (60%) End of semester examination on units 1 – 5 to develop core skills such as knowledge application and personal development. The examination will adopt varied approaches; from short answer questions to essay questions. Assessing Learning Outcomes: 1, 2, 3, and 4.
Instructional Resources	Projector and computer, audio-visuals, internet, sample texts
Required Text (core)	William Bascom, <u>The African Dilemma Tale</u>
Additional Reading List ¹⁰	<p>Abrahams, R. <i>African Folktales</i> Finnegan, R. <i>Oral Literature in Africa</i> Ong, Walter, <i>Orality and Literacy</i> Nkansah, S. K. (2012) "The Quest for Climatic Sanity: Re-Reading of Akan Creation Myth." In Thirumaiai, M. S., et al (Eds). <i>Language in India: strength for today and hope for tomorrow. Vol. 12:8 August, 2012</i> www.languageinindia.com</p> <p>Nkansah, S. K. (2012). "Metaphor as a Concretising Tool in Borbor Mfantse Funeral Libation Texts." In Edu-Buandoh, D. F., et al (Eds.). <i>Between language and literature</i>. Cape Coast: University Press.</p>