

## **ALT 414: women in Literature**

### **Unit Description**

This unit will explore a selection of works by male and female authors. The unit will examine the portrayal of women in major works of world literature; perspectives of male and female writers; relationship between writer's vision and artistic form. A range of literary texts - novels, drama, poetry and non-fiction will be used to examine the role of women in literature and to study diversity in the representation of female characters. The reading of these texts will be focused on key thematic concerns and the authors' innovative use of language to communicate these concerns.

### **Unit Objectives**

- ❖ To introduce students to the idea of, and to problematize, gender.
- ❖ To sensitize students regarding women's position in various societies at certain historical periods.
- ❖ To examine the role of women in literature as reflected in selected creative works.
- ❖ To appraise and situate feminist criticism.

### **References**

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- ✓ Nnaemeka, Obioma, (ed). *The Politics of (M)Othering: Womanhood, Identity, and Resistance in African Literature*. Routledge, London, 1997
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- ✓ Ferguson, Kathy, E. *Self, Society and Womankind: The Dialectic of Liberation*. Westport: Greenwood Press, 1980.
- ✓ Brown, L.W. *Women Writers in Black Africa*. Greenwood Press, 1981.
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