



# BROWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE COURSE OUTLINE

**LAST REVIEW: 2008-09**

**NEXT REVIEW: 20013-14**

**STATUS: A**

**COURSE TITLE: Mystery Fiction**

**COMMON COURSE NUMBER: LIT 2341**

**CREDIT HOURS: 3**

**CONTACT HOUR BREAKDOWN**

*(per 16 week term)*

**CLOCK HOURS:**

*(Voc. Course ONLY)*

Lecture: 48      Lab:

Clinic:

Other:

**PREREQISITE(S): None**

**COREQUISITE(S): None**

**PRE/COREQUISITE(S): None**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION** *(750 characters, maximum):*

A discussion of mystery fiction by investigation of the plot, characters, settings, themes, styles, motifs, and development of the most representative authors of detective, police procedural, spy, and other mystery thriller fiction. Includes authors such as Poe, Christie, Doyle, and Hammett.

General Education Requirements – Associate of Arts Degree (AA), meets Area(s):      Area

General Education Requirements – Associate in Science Degree (AS), meets Area(s):      Area

General Education Requirements – Associate in Applied Science Degree (AAS), meets Area(s):      Area

## **UNIT TITLES**

- 1. Introduction to Mystery Fiction**
- 2. Classical Detective Tradition**
- 3. Amateur Detectives**
- 4. Private Investigators**
- 5. Police Procedural Fiction**



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## ASSESSMENT:

Please provide a brief description (250 characters maximum) that details how students will be assessed on the course outcomes.

Students must write an essay for each unit that demonstrates mastery of the traditions and characteristics of the genre.

*\*\*\* Complete the following only if course is seeking general education status \*\*\**

## GENERAL EDUCATION Competencies and Skills\*:

Please highlight in **green** font all Competencies/Skills from the list below that apply to this course. In the box to the right of the Competency/Skill, enter all specific learning outcome numbers (i.e. 1.1, 2.7, 5.12) that apply.

1. **Read with critical comprehension**
2. **Speak and listen effectively**
3. **Write clearly and coherently**
4. **Think creatively, logically, critically, and reflectively**  
(analyze, synthesize, apply, and evaluate)
5. **Demonstrate and apply literacy in its various forms:**  
(highlight in **green** ALL that apply)  
(1. technological, 2. informational, 3. mathematical,  
4. scientific, 5. cultural, 6. historical, 7. aesthetic and/or  
8. environmental )
6. **Apply problem solving techniques to real-world experiences**
7. **Apply methods of scientific inquiry**
8. **Demonstrate an understanding of the physical and biological environment and how it is impacted by human beings**
9. **Demonstrate an understanding of and appreciation for human diversities and commonalities**
10. **Collaborate with others to achieve common goals.**
11. **Research, synthesize and produce original work**
12. **Practice ethical behavior**
13. **Demonstrate self-direction and self motivation**
14. **Assume responsibility for and understand the impact of personal behaviors on self and society**
15. **Contribute to the welfare of the community**

\* *General Education Competencies and Skills endorsed by '05-'06 General Education Task Force*



# BROWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE COURSE OUTLINE

Common Course Number: LIT 2341

## UNITS

### Unit 1 Introduction to Mystery Fiction

#### General Outcome:

Upon successful completion of this course, the students should be able to discuss the history, structure, major authors, and contributions of mystery fiction.

#### Specific Measurable Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the student shall be able to:

- 1.1 Discuss the inception and history of mystery fiction.
- 1.2 Describe the appeal of mystery fiction to the reader.
- 1.3 Discuss the literary value of mystery fiction.
- 1.4 Identify the plot structures, characters, settings, and other elements of mystery fiction, and their contribution to the genre.



**Common Course Number:**

**Unit 2 Classical Tradition of Detective Fiction**

**General Outcome:**

2.0 The students should be able to discuss the inception and development of detective fiction in terms of its early conventions and motifs, with emphasis on outstanding representative authors.

**Specific Learning Outcomes:**

Upon successful completion of this unit, the students should be able to:

- 2.1 Identify the characteristics of the classical detective story.
- 2.2 Determine the plausibility and art of the tradition.
- 2.3 Relate the detective novel to tales of horror, and to Gothic novels.
- 2.4 Evaluate the art and craft of individual authors.
- 2.5 Identify classical detective story conventions, formulas and motifs.
- 2.6 Identify the influences of authors on each other.
- 2.7 Evaluate the sociological and literary significance of the genre.



**Common Course Number:**

**Unit 3 Amateur Sleuths**

**General Outcome:**

3.0 The students should be able to discuss the conventions and motifs used in mystery fiction with an amateur sleuth as detective, with emphasis on outstanding representative authors.

**Specific Learning Outcomes:**

Upon successful completion of this unit, the students should be able to:

- 3.1 Identify the characteristics of the amateur sleuth.
- 3.2 Determine the plausibility and art of the tradition.
- 3.3 Evaluate the art and craft of individual authors.
- 3.4 Identify amateur sleuth story conventions, formulas and motifs.
- 3.5 Identify the influences of authors on each other.
- 3.6 Evaluate the sociological and literary significance of the genre.



**Common Course Number: LIT 2341**

**Unit 4 Private Investigators**

**General Outcome:**

4.0 The students should be able to discuss the conventions and motifs used in mystery fiction with a private investigator as detective, with emphasis on outstanding representative authors.

**Specific Learning Outcomes:**

Upon successful completion of this unit, the students should be able to:

- 4.1 Identify the characteristics of the private eye.
- 4.2 Determine the plausibility and art of the tradition.
- 4.3 Evaluate the art and craft of individual authors.
- 4.4 Identify private eye story conventions, formulas and motifs.
- 4.5 Identify the influences of authors on each other.
- 4.6 Evaluate the sociological and literary significance of the genre.



**Common Course Number: LIT 2341**

**Unit 5 The Police**

**General Outcome:**

5.0 The students should be able to discuss the conventions and motifs used in mystery fiction with police detectives, with emphasis on outstanding representative authors.

**Specific Learning Outcomes:**

Upon successful completion of this unit, the students should be able to:

- 5.1 Identify the characteristics of the police detective.
- 5.2 Determine the plausibility and art of the tradition.
- 5.3 Evaluate the art and craft of individual authors.
- 5.4 Identify police story conventions, formulas and motifs.
- 5.5 Identify the influences of authors on each other.
- 5.6 Evaluate the sociological and literary significance of the genre.