

## **ALT 100: Critical Reading and Response**

### **Unit Description**

The purpose of this unit is to introduce students to the basics of literary criticism. Students will be guided in systematically practicing the skills involved in the appreciation of word art; and in responding critically to literature. This will involve reading selected literary pieces including novels, plays, poems and non-fiction. Elements such as form, content and style will be given prominence. Students will also read the critical reviews of others and respond critically to them.

### **Unit Objectives**

By the end of this unit students should:

- ❖ Have a clear understanding of terms and phrases used in the course of literary criticism.
- ❖ Have the capacity to identify literary devices and stylistic features of word art.
- ❖ Have studied a selection of literary pieces produced by writers from around the world.
- ❖ Have improved the skills necessary to the appreciation of, and critical response to, word art.

### **References**

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- ✓ Noworthy, W. *The Language Poets Use*. London: The Athlone Press, 1962.
- ✓ Ricard, Alain. *The Languages and Literatures of Africa*. Cape Town: David Philip Publishers, 2004.
- ✓ Richards, I. *Practical Criticism: A Study of Literary Judgement*. London: K. Paul, 1929.