ENGL 2580: Independent Reading: The Great Books

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3
Lecture Hours/Week: 3
Lab Hours/Week: *
OJT Hours/Week: *

Prerequisites:
This course requires any of these three prerequisite categories
1. Reading College Level
   Or
2. ENGL 1215 - College Writing I
   Or
3. ENGL 0528 - Reading & Writing 3

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: Goal 02 - Critical Thinking, Goal 06 - Humanities/Fine Arts

Independent Reading: The Great Books allows students to choose books to read from a list provided by the instructor and discuss them in one-on-one meetings with the instructor and/or in small group meetings with other students and the instructor. The course may be conducted on campus or through electronic delivery (by discretion of instructor). The focus of the course will be on classic literary texts; however, books which are historical, political, philosophical, or representative of other disciplines may be used, though they should be ones accessible to skilled readers from outside those disciplines. Note: This course does not involve regular class meetings; rather, students must arrange meetings with the instructor. (MnTC Goals 2 and 6) (Prerequisite: A minimum score of 78 in the Reading Comprehension portion of the ACCUPLACER basic skills test or a minimum score of 21 in the Reading Subject area of the ACT test or successful completion of ENGL0528) (3 credits: 3 lecture/0 lab)

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 03/07/2012 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Rhetorical analysis of major, book-length texts
2. Textual close reading of major, book-length texts
3. Identification of and synthesis of major themes in major, book-length texts
4. Articulation of thoughtful responses to major, book-length texts
5. Annotation and outlining of major, book-length texts

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. Think critically about the ideas portrayed through literature and the consequences of those ideas as they manifest in society
2. Think critically about what literature teaches regarding human nature
3. Articulate views, by way of discussion, in response to particular pieces of literature
4. Show an ability to analyze and synthesize themes and techniques of a book
5. Show an ability to relate books to other works read in the class and outside the class
E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

Goal 02 - Critical Thinking
1. Imagine and seek out a variety of possible goals, assumptions, interpretations, or perspectives which can give alternative meanings or solutions to given situations or problems.
2. Analyze the logical connections among the facts, goals, and implicit assumptions relevant to a problem or claim; generate and evaluate implications that follow from them.
3. Recognize and articulate the value assumptions which underlie and affect decisions, interpretations, analyses, and evaluations made by ourselves and others.

Goal 06 - Humanities/Fine Arts
1. Demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.
2. Understand those works as expressions of individual and human values within an historical and social context.
3. Articulate an informed personal reaction to works in the arts and humanities.

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT
As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION
None noted