Alexandria Technical and Community College

ENGL 2405: Modern American Literature

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

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

Prerequisites:
This course requires either of these prerequisites
   READ 0900 - College Prep Reading (Minimum grade: 2.0 GPA Equivalent and Number of Years Valid: 5)
   A score of 2 on test Reading

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: Goal 06 - Humanities/Fine Arts, Goal 07 - Human Diversity

This course meets Minnesota Transfer Curriculum (MnTC) goal areas 6 and 7. This course will explore the evolution of the American novel from the beginning of the twentieth century to the end. Analysis of a broad range of American novels will allow students to develop an understanding of the literary, political, historical, and social contexts that have fashioned the novel's form and content in the United States. Students will examine how these selected American novels both shaped and responded to the contexts in which they were produced, helping students to sharpen the ability to read, comprehend, and interpret a literary work as well as to gain a general knowledge of the significant cultural, political, philosophical, and literary movements of the twentieth century. Prerequisite: READ0900.

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 01/11/2010 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Examine setting, characters, and plot of given American literature.
2. Examine the author's point of view in given novels.
3. Examine the influences of geography, religion and culture on given American novels.
4. Identify irony, theme, imagery and style in American literature.
5. Read and critical examine fictional novels.
6. Research academic reviews on given American novels.
7. Understand the historical, political, and social influence on given novels.
8. Write essays examining literary elements in given American literature.

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. The learner will understand the literary, political, historical, and social contexts that have fashioned the American novel's form and content.
2. The learner will be able to define and evaluate the literary components of novel-length fiction.
3. The learner will use literature to examine American diversity.
E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

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

Goal 07 - Human Diversity
1. Understand the development of and the changing meanings of group identities in the United States' history and culture.
2. Analyze their own attitudes, behaviors, concepts and beliefs regarding diversity, racism, and bigotry.
3. Describe and discuss the experience and contributions (political, social, economic, etc.) of the many groups that shape American society and culture, in particular those groups that have suffered discrimination and exclusion.
4. Demonstrate communication skills necessary for living and working effectively in a society with great population diversity.

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT
As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION
None noted