



**COMMON COURSE OUTLINE: Course discipline/number/title: ENGL 2260: Literature: Topical Studies**

**A. CATALOG DESCRIPTION**

- 1. Credits: 1-4**
- 2. Hours/Week: 1-4 hours lecture**
- 3. Prerequisites (Course discipline/number):** ENGL 1118 or ENGL 1918 recommended; college level reading and writing skills.
- 4. Co-requisites (Course discipline/number):** None
- 5. MnTC Goals (if any):** Goal 2/Critical Thinking, Goal 6/Humanities - the Arts, Literature and Philosophy, Goal 7/Human Diversity.

This course focuses on a specific topic chosen by the instructor who teaches the class. It could focus on an author or a group of authors, a period, a literary genre, or a theme. Specific course content and number of credit will vary depending upon the nature of the course and may be repeated up to 9 credits for credit if the focus of the class is different. Examples: Literature of the 1920's, Afro-American Writers, Twentieth Century Poetry, or Literature of the American Frontier.

**B. DATE LAST REVISED (Month, year):** September, 1998

**C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS:**

1. Awareness of non-European cultures and stories
2. Role of storytelling in different cultures
3. History of literary tradition in cultures discussed
4. Exploration of how European culture has affected indigenous culture/literature
5. Understanding of how culture influences stories
6. Understanding of symbols/literary styles from different cultures
7. Ability to respond to and analyze global texts in writing
8. Understanding of their own attitudes, behaviors, concepts and beliefs regarding diversity, racism, bigotry.

**D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (GENERAL):** The student will be able to:

1. Read and respond critically to a variety of literary forms from different cultures.
2. Discuss content and relate texts to each other and to previous reading.
3. Discover meaning of figurative language in the texts.
4. Write about texts.
5. Become aware of the institutional dynamics of unequal power relations between groups in contemporary society and how they are reflected in a group's literature.
6. Demonstrate communication skills necessary for living and working effectively in a society with great population diversity.

**E. LEARNING OUTCOMES (MNTC):** Competencies from the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum (MNTC):

Goal 2: Critical Thinking: The student will be able to:

1. Gather factual information and apply it to a given problem in a manner that is relevant, clear, comprehensive, and conscious of possible bias in the information selected.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. Recognize and articulate the value assumptions, which underlie and affect decisions, interpretations, analyses, and evaluations made by ourselves and others.

Goal 6: The Humanities-the Arts, Literature, and Philosophy: The student will be able to:

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 a historical and social context.
3. Respond critically to works in the arts and humanities.
4. Engage in the creative process or interpretive performance.
5. Articulate an informed personal reaction to works in the arts and humanities.



**E. LEARNING OUTCOMES (MNTC): Continued. . .**

Goal 7: Human Diversity: The student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an awareness of the individual and institutional dynamics of unequal power relations between groups in contemporary society.
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. METHODS FOR EVALUATION OF STUDENT LEARNING:**

1. Objective Exams
2. Essay Exams
3. Formal Papers
4. Group Projects
5. Class attendance, participation, discussion

**G. SPECIAL INFORMATION (if any):** None