COMMON COURSE OUTLINE: Course discipline/number/title: ENGL 2276: Best Sellers

A. CATALOG DESCRIPTION
1. Credits: 3
2. Hours/Week: 3
3. Prerequisites (Course discipline/number): College level reading and writing skills
4. Co-requisites (Course discipline/number): None
5. MnTC Goals (if any): Goal 2/Critical Thinking, Goal 6/The Humanities-the Arts, Literature, and Philosophy, and Goal 7/Human Diversity

This course examines the definitions, history, and patterns of “best sellers.” The effect of films made from books and of publicity generated by media – such as Oprah’s book club – will be discussed. Students will evaluate and analyze the scope and variety of best sellers, with special attention to the diversity, or lack of diversity represented in best sellers. This course is writing intensive.

B. DATE LAST REVISED (Month, year): April, 2011

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS:
1. Definitions
2. History and cultural and social context of Best Sellers
3. Values reflected in the art and business of Best Sellers
   a) Individual creativity
   b) Power of the market
   c) Social responsibility
   d) Feminine perspectives
   e) Ethnic representation
      i. Minority perspectives in America
      ii. Global perspectives
4. Critical literary, artistic analysis of Best Sellers
   a) Fiction
   b) Non-fiction
5. Contemporary personal and social relevance
6. Film and screen-play adaptations of Best Sellers

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (GENERAL): The student will be able to:
1. Put Best Sellers into context.
2. Examine the values represented in Best Sellers.
3. Analyze the literary and artistic merit of Best Sellers.

E. LEARNING OUTCOMES (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. 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 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. Articulate an informed personal reaction to works in the arts and humanities.

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.
E. LEARNING OUTCOMES (MNTC): Continued...
   2. Analyze their own attitudes, behaviors, concepts, and beliefs regarding diversity, racism, and bigotry.
   3. Demonstrate communication skills necessary for living and working effectively in a society with great population diversity.

F. METHODS FOR EVALUATION OF STUDENT LEARNING:
   1. Quizzes/Essay tests
   2. Essays
   3. Written homework
   4. Small group projects
   5. Individual presentations
   6. Any other deemed appropriate by the instructor

G. RCTC CORE OUTCOME(S) ADDRESSED:
   ☒ Communication  ☐ Civic Responsibility
   ☒ Critical Thinking ☐ Personal/Professional Accountability
   ☒ Global Awareness/Diversity  ☒ Aesthetic Response

H. SPECIAL INFORMATION (if any): None