ENGL 257: Introduction to Science Fiction
Credit Hours: 3
Scheduled hours per week
  Lecture: 3
  Lab: 0
  Other: 0

Catalog Course Description: An exploration of the development of science fiction and fantasy through the study of representative works.

Pre-requisites: Grade of C or better in ENGL 101

Co-requisites: N/A

Course Learning Outcomes:
1. Students will identify the distinguishing elements of different genres.
   - read actively and analyze selected works of science fiction and fantasy in order to define and compare/ contrast themes, historical influences, and distinctive elements of style embodied in them.

2. Students will identify and apply literary terms and definitions appropriately.
   - These will include major subgenres and tropes of science fiction and fantasy.

3. Students will use the technique of close reading in the analysis of literature.
   - to differentiate between facts and inferences;
   - to engage in the active reading of literature;
   - to read inferences out of the literature, rather than into literature;
   - to draw valid inferences based on consistent evidence from the literature;

4. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the creative process as it applies to literature.

5. Students will demonstrate knowledge of different literary periods, their historical and social backgrounds, individual authors, stylistic trends, and influence on later authors and literary periods.
   - read actively and analyze selected works of science fiction and fantasy in order to define and compare/ contrast themes, historical influences, and distinctive elements of style embodied in them.

6. Students will distinguish different theories and critical approaches related to the study of literature.
   - to acknowledge and respect valid opposing viewpoints;

7. Students will explore the contemporary relevance and value of past and present works.

8. Students will examine the interdisciplinary nature of literature.

9. Students will recognize the global nature of literature.
10. Students will write coherently about literature, providing information from the text to support their reasoning.
   • to synthesize information from the literature, class discussion, and secondary readings.
   • each “inference” within an essay should be clearly defined and supported by consistent evidence;
   • ideas should be presented in a coherent and logical order;
   • the essay responses should use precise vocabulary and be relatively free of mechanical errors;
   • superior (A) responses must demonstrate exactness of expression and some depth of insight into the literature being discussed.

Topics to be studied:
• The development of literature from 500-1500 CE
• Literary genres such as heroic verse, the spiritual autobiography, saints’ lives, and romance
• Major authors
• The influence of invasions and other historical events on literature
• Methods of critical analysis and literary research
• Generic definitions (science fiction, fantasy, space opera, sword and sorcery, etc.)
• History of the genres
• Literary elements such as characterization, setting, theme, and motif

Relationship of Course to Program or Discipline Learning Outcomes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Learning Outcomes for Literature</th>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Students will identify the distinguishing elements of different genres.</td>
<td>X</td>
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Relationship of Course to General Education Learning Outcomes:

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Composition and Rhetoric</strong></td>
<td>Students illustrate a fundamental understanding of the best practices of communicating in English and meet the writing standards of their college or program-based communication requirements.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Science &amp; Technology</strong></td>
<td>Students successfully apply systematic methods of analysis to the natural and physical world, understand scientific knowledge as empirical, and refer to data as a basis for conclusions.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Mathematics &amp; Quantitative Skills</strong></td>
<td>Students effectively use quantitative techniques and the practical application of numerical, symbolic, or spatial concepts.</td>
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<td><strong>Society, Diversity, &amp; Connections</strong></td>
<td>Students demonstrate understanding of and a logical ability to successfully analyze human behavior, societal and political organization, or communication.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Human Inquiry &amp; the Past</strong></td>
<td>Students interpret historical events or philosophical perspectives by identifying patterns, applying analytical reasoning, employing methods of critical inquiry, or expanding problem-solving skills.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>The Arts &amp; Creativity</strong></td>
<td>Students successfully articulate and apply methods and principles of critical and creative inquiry to the production or analysis of works of art.</td>
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</table>

Special requirements of the course:

**Additional information:**

**Prepared by:** Allison D. Canfield

**Date:** October 20, 2017