English 261      English Literature I

Credit Hours:  3
Scheduled hours per week
  Lecture: 3
  Lab: 0
  Other: NA

Catalog Course Description:  Representative works from the Middle Ages to the Eighteenth Century; Beowulf, Chaucer, Shakespeare, and others.

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

Co-requisites:  None

Course Learning Outcomes:

1. Students will identify the distinguishing elements of different genres.
   • read actively and analyze selected works of English-language literature 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
   • a poetry text through the following elements: tone, persona, situation, diction, syntax, denotation and connotation, imagery, figures of speech, symbolism, sound, rhythm, and poetic forms;
   • a dramatic text through the following elements: dramatic structure and form, character, setting and staging, irony, theme, and context.

3. Students will use the technique of close reading in the analysis of literature.
   • to apply elements of literature to active reading of literature;
   • to draw valid inferences based on consistent evidence from the literature;
   • to acknowledge opposing viewpoints;

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.
   • to engage in the active reading of medieval and early modern English literature
   • to connect history and literature, but not to confuse the two.

6. Students will distinguish different theories and critical approaches related to the study of literature.
   • to acknowledge and respect valid opposing viewpoints;
   • to synthesize information from the literature, class discussion, and secondary readings
   • to connect personal experience and literature, but not to confuse the two.

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.
    • 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 free of mechanical errors;

Topics to be studied:
1. Old English literature
2. Middle English literature
3. Early modern drama
4. Literary/cultural movements such as the Renaissance, Puritanism, and the Age of Reason
5. The evolution of the English language
6. The influence of historical events on the development of English literature

Relationship of Course to Program or Discipline Learning Outcomes:

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<td><strong>Composition and Rhetoric</strong> 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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<td><strong>Science &amp; Technology</strong> 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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<td><strong>Mathematics &amp; Quantitative Skills</strong> 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> Students demonstrate understanding of and a logical ability to successfully analyze human behavior, societal and political organization, or communication.</td>
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<td><strong>Human Inquiry &amp; the Past</strong> 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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<td><strong>The Arts &amp; Creativity</strong> 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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5/3/2016
Special requirements of the course:
   (If a program assessment is required in this course, indicate it here.)

Additional information:
   (Anything else that may be useful.)

Prepared by: Danielle Kelly

Date: 10/20/17