I. CATALOGUE DESCRIPTION

Prerequisite: None
3 semester credit hours

English Literature: After 1800 examines selected British works from the Romantic Period through the prose, poetry, and plays of the Victorian and Modern Periods. Students will have the opportunity to study one novel of their choice. English Literature: After 1800 will partially fulfill the humanities requirement for the associate degree. (S)

II. GENERAL COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

A. Read representative examples of the literary works of each literary period: Romantic, Victorian, and Twentieth Century.

B. Demonstrate an understanding of the historical context in which each piece was written.

C. Demonstrate an understanding of the general theme of each work.

D. Explain the impact of the major literary and social movements—Romanticism, Victorianism, and Modernism—on the course of human affairs.

E. Where applicable, be able to demonstrate the rhythmic, structural, and linguistic characteristics of the writing.

F. Read a novel from one of the periods and explain its theme, social impact, characterization, criticism, and imagery.

III. COURSE OUTLINE

A. The Romantic Period
   1. Introduction
   2. William Blake
   3. Robert Burns
   4. Mary Wollstonecraft
   5. William Wordsworth
   6. Samuel Taylor Coleridge
   7. Lord Byron
   8. Percy Shelley
   9. John Keats
   10. Mary Shelley
B. The Victorian Period
1. Introduction
2. Charlotte Bronte
4. The Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood (the Rossettis)
5. Elizabeth Barrett Browning
6. Robert Browning
7. Alfred Tennyson
8. Matthew Arnold

C. The Twentieth Century
1. Gerard Manley Hopkins
2. Thomas Hardy
3. Joseph Conrad
4. A.E. Housman
5. WWI Poets (Brooke, Sassoon, Owen)
6. William Butler Yeats
7. James Joyce
8. T.S. Eliot
9. Stevie Smith
10. W.H. Auden
11. Dylan Thomas
12. Samuel Beckett

IV. UNIT OBJECTIVES

A. The Romantic Period
1. Define “Romantic Movement” and explain its major characteristics.
2. Explain the roles of Wordsworth and Coleridge and their major works.
3. Identify “romantic” characteristics in selected poems and in Jane Eyre.
4. Explain the connection of the Romantic Movement to political revolutions.
5. Explain the Byronic hero.
6. Explain the popularity of Burns and Byron.
7. Analyze the sensory images in selected works by Keats.
8. Compare and contrast the uses of nature in romantic poetry, especially in “Tintern Abbey” and “Mont Blanc.”

B. The Victorian Period
1. Explain Newman’s notions about a liberal education.
2. Define “dramatic monologue,” illustrating your definition with one of Browning’s poems.
3. Analyze and explain imagery in selected Tennyson poems
4. Identify and explain popular Victorian themes in selected works.
5. Compare Pre-Raphaelite paintings to the poems they illustrate.
6. Explain the importance of science and scientific discoveries in this golden age of prose.

C. The Twentieth Century
1. Explain Hopkins’ “sprung rhythm” and relate his poetry to its antecedent in Old English verse.
2. Explain Hardy’s modern consciousness/pessimistic world view; use selected poems to illustrate.
3. Compare Tennyson’s view of war in “The Charge of the Light Brigade” to the views of the WWI poets.
4. Explain Yeats’s concept of history’s “gyres.”
5. Analyze and explain the imagery in Joyce’s “Araby.” Explain how the story qualifies as a modernist work.
6. Explain the modernist themes of alienation and hopelessness, using representative works to illustrate.

V. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

A. Lecture
B. Textbook Readings
C. Small Group Analysis
D. Expository Papers
E. Videos
F. Study Guides
G. Online self-quizzes

VI. REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS (with publication information)


VII. REQUIRED MATERIALS

A. Textbooks

VIII. SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS
None

IX. METHODS OF EVALUATION

A. Student essays
B. Quizzes
C. Exams
D. Study Guides

X. GRADING SCALE
A = 90-100
B = 80-89
C = 70-79
D = 60-79
F = below 60