

J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College
Course Content Summary

Course Prefix and Number: ENG 295

Credits: 3

Course Title: Introduction to the Novel

Course Description (including lecture hours, lab. hours, total contacts)

Examines a variety of selected novels, emphasizing the history of the genre, its major forms, and the critical literary terms used for its analysis. Develops and enhances students' critical reading and writing skills. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose

This course develops skills in critical literacy, provides opportunities for self-expression, and promotes understanding of the scope and structure of the novel as a literary art form. As a writing intensive course, this course will provide specific instruction in writing, especially literary analysis, substantial written and oral feedback on formal writing, with the opportunity to revise at least one formal paper. It develops skills in critical reading and analysis of significant novels representative of diverse literary movements, provides opportunities for self-expression, and promotes understanding of the unique opportunity the novel offers to display the social, cultural, and psychological influences on character development.

Course Prerequisites/Corequisites (Entry-level competencies required for enrollment)

Completion of ENG 112 or Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences approval

Course Objectives

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

- a. Demonstrate an understanding of the genre of the novel.
- b. Write formal essays with an emphasis on the development of independent critical thinking and literary analysis.
- c. Read critically, with particular emphasis on the ability to identify significant passages and articulate themes.
- d. Demonstrate an understanding of significant literary terminology.
- e. Appreciate narrative techniques such as foreshadowing, stream of consciousness, and narrative perspective.
- f. Demonstrate an ability to understand novels within their appropriate historical, social, cultural, and literary contexts.
- g. Demonstrate awareness of the history and growth of the genre.
- h. Demonstrate a general understanding of critical literary approaches to the reading and critiquing of literature.

Major Topics to be Included

- a. Close literary analysis of selected novels
- b. Exploration of literary, historical, sociological, and psychological aspects of texts
- c. Examination of the development of the novel

Effective Date of Course Content Summary: February 13, 2009