Course Prefix and Number: ENG 254  
Credits: 3

Course Title: Survey of African-American Literature II

Course Description: Examines selected works by African-American writers from the Harlem/New Negro Renaissance to the contemporary period. Involves critical reading and writing. ENG 254 has been designated as a "writing intensive" course according to standards developed by the English department. Prerequisite: ENG 112 or its equivalent. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose: ENG 254 develops skills in critical literacy, provides opportunities for self-expression, and promotes understanding of multiple genres of African-American literature from the Harlem/New Negro Renaissance to the contemporary period. As a writing intensive course, ENG 254 will provide specific instruction in writing, especially literary analysis, and substantial written and oral feedback on formal writing, with the opportunity to revise at least one formal paper. Upon successful completion of the course, students will have produced at least 12 pages (a minimum of 3000 words) of formal writing, including academic essays and essay examinations, and at least 12 pages (a minimum of 3000 words) of informal writing, including reading responses or journal entries.

Course Pre-requisites and Co-Requisites:
Prerequisite: ENG 112 or its equivalent

Course Objectives:
Upon completing this course, the student will be able to
a. Describe, analyze, and interpret themes and features of literary texts from a variety of genres, using appropriate literary terminology;
b. Demonstrate knowledge of the literary movements covered in the survey, including literary techniques, innovations, major writers, and major texts;
c. Explain the relationship between literature and the historical and cultural contexts in which it is produced, with particular attention to the shaping of cultural identities as reflected in the literature;
d. Produce at least 12 pages (a minimum of 3000 words) of formal writing, including academic essays and essay examinations, and at least 12 pages (a minimum of 3000 words) of informal writing, including reading responses or journal entries. Academic writing about literature should include clear argumentation and organization, valid textual evidence for support, and correct documentation;
e. Participate in interactive discussions, peer reviews, and/or one or more formal individual and/or group multi-modal presentation;
f. Locate and evaluate information retrieved from electronic sources, such as academic databases and web resources;
g. Use available electronic technologies for creating and submitting texts; and
h. Recognize literary study as a means for intellectual, aesthetic, and personal growth, and for engaging meaningful and enduring questions across human cultures.
Major Topics to Be Included:
Students may expect to study the following:

a. 20th-21st century African-American literature from a variety of genres, such as fiction, non-
fiction, poetry, drama, and memoir

b. Literary movements, such as the Harlem/New Negro Renaissance, twentieth-century
realism and modernism, the Black Arts movement, and contemporary African-American
literature

c. Social, political, and cultural movements from which the literature of this period emerges

Effective Date of Course Content Summary: Spring 2014 (revised 6/9/2014)