Course Title: ENG 246 - American Literature

Course Description
Examines American literary traditions and texts from diverse time periods, genres, and authors. Analyzes literary works within their historical, cultural, social, and/or literary contexts. Emphasizes skills of close reading. Develops critical thinking and interpretive skills through discussion, interpretation, and analysis of these texts. Lecture 3 hours. Total 3 hours per week. 3 credits

General Course Purpose
ENG 246 introduces students to texts and traditions within American literature. This course requires close reading, interpretation, and analysis.

Course Prerequisites/Corequisites
ENG 112, ENG 113, or departmental approval.

Course Objectives
Upon completing the course, the student will be able to:

Critical Thinking
- Evaluate and interpret information, ideas and arguments from a variety of perspectives (including the written arguments of others) to analyze complex issues related to literature
- Interpret and combine information to reach and/or evaluate well-reasoned conclusions about literature

Communication
- Explain the complex ideas of others, as they relate to literature and its traditions
- Develop, convey, and exchange ideas in writing that focuses on literary analysis
- Develop writing that is appropriate to a given context and for a specific audience

Cultural and Civic Engagement
- Assess the impact of culture across local, national, and global literary communities
- Develop knowledge and civic values, within a humanities framework, that are necessary for contributing to civic life and the well-being of local, national, and global literary communities

Literary Traditions
- Describe salient features of writers, literary movements, genres and/or texts within the American literary tradition.

Inquiry
- Construct and explore meaningful questions about diverse human experiences through literary study
Historical and social contexts
- Explain connections between literary texts and related historical, social, and literary contexts

Close Reading and Literary Analysis
- Analyze literary texts using appropriate vocabulary and a variety of methodological approaches and perspectives, exploring the ways literary texts reflect and challenge cultural values and beliefs
- Support interpretations of literary texts with valid textual evidence and use scholarly sources as appropriate to inform inquiry into literary texts

Writing
- Compose literary analysis that is well-organized and features substantial, logical, and concrete development of ideas with appropriate documentation

**Major Topics to be Included**

Literary Traditions
Inquiry
Historical and social contexts
Close Reading and Literary Analysis
Writing

(To be completed by VCCS) Course Approved: Month ________________ Year ________