

Virginia Western Community College

ENG 243

Survey of American Literature I

Prerequisites

ENG 111, ENG 112

Course Description

VCCS Course Description: Studies major English works from the Anglo-Saxon period to the present, emphasizing ideas and characteristics of the British literary tradition. Involves critical reading and writing. Prerequisite ENG 112 or divisional approval. Part I of II. Lecture 3 hours per week. 3 credits.

VWCC Course Description: Beginning with the literature of the Middle Ages, continuing into the sixteenth century and seventeenth century, and concluding with the Restoration and the eighteenth century, the first semester of English literature will acquaint students with the social, political, religious, economic, and philosophical influences that have shaped English literature. A variety of literary forms – epics, poems, plays, myths, letters, and essays -- reflect the changing times. Works of recognized and enduring value will be studied.

Semester Credits: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Required Materials

1. Internet access
 2. Blackboard
 3. Textbook
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1. Greenblatt, Stephen, ed. et al. The Norton Anthology of English Literature. The Major Authors. Vol. 1. 9th ed. New York: W. W. Norton, 2006. ISBN# 978-0-393-91963-9
 2. Outside novel (optional), instructor's choice of several.

Other Required Materials:

Novel-Instructor's choice from approved novel selections.

Course Outcomes

At the completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- understand the historical, cultural, and intellectual currents that have contributed to the development of early English literature
- identify the major themes and characteristics of early English literature;
- demonstrate the capacity to think critically about course readings in class discussions, tests, and papers;
- write effective analytical essays about early English literature.

Topical Description

1	Introduction to the course
2	Part One: Readings from the Middle Ages
3	Part Two: Readings from the 16 th Century
4	Part Three: Readings from the Early 17 th Century
5	Part Four: Readings from the Restoration and the 18 th Century

Notes to Instructors