

General Education Course Proposal

Proposed Course: Engl 30 Masterpieces Units 4
Prefix No. Title

Department: English School: Arts and Humanities

GE Category (Indicate one category only):

Foundation: A1___; A2___; A3___; B4___
Breadth: B1___; B2___; C1___; C2 X; D___; E___
Integration: B___; C___; D___; International/Multicultural___

Existing Course___; Revised Course X; New Course___

Course Included in Current GE Program X

New courses require the Undergraduate Course Proposal form in addition to this form.

Revised courses require the Undergraduate Course Change Request in addition to this form.

Proposed catalog description: Limit course description to 40 words using succinct phrases. Include prerequisites, limitations, lecture/lab hours. Indicate former course number, e.g., (Former Biol 105)

Prerequisite: English 1. Introduction to literary appreciation and criticism through discussion and written analyses of widely influential poetic, dramatic, and fictional works by British, American, and world authors (Western and non-Western), including the cultural contexts for those works.

Enrollment limit per section: 30

Expected number of sections per semester – Year 1 1-2; Year 3 1-2

Attachments:

1. A statement presenting the ways in which this course meets the Specifications provided in the appropriate section of the General Education Policy as well as in the Policies for Inclusion and Evaluation of General Education Courses.
2. A statement of elements common to all sections of this course, identifying content, objectives, required student activities, grading policy, representative texts, and an approximate schedule for the course. Required student activities include such things as papers, research projects, homework, laboratory and/or studio performance, recitations, participation, attendance, and exams.
3. A typical syllabus for a particular offering of the course.
4. Any special cost factors associated with this course.

Approval for Inclusion in General Education

Andrew Sim 2-25-98
Department Chair Date

Kim Morin 3/17/98
School Curriculum Committee Date

Paul J. Costa 9/23/98
School Dean Date

Paul Costa 12/15/98
General Education Subcommittee Date

Brandt Kehoe 12/22/98
Associate Provost Date

Attachment # 2: Statement of elements common to all sections of the course
Proposed Course: English 30 Masterpieces

Course Title: English 30 Masterpieces

Catalog Description: Introduction to literary appreciation and criticism through discussion and written analyses of widely influential poetic, dramatic, and fictional works by British, American, and world authors (Western and non-Western), including the cultural contexts for those works.

Content: The course will focus on literary works that are widely influential and that are considered "masterpieces." Students will explore texts from the perspectives of traditional genres, connections between content and form, and historical and cultural contexts. Students will be introduced to techniques of literary criticism through discussion and writing assignments. Literary works from a wide variety of historical and cultural backgrounds will be included.

Objectives:

Students will:

- explore the reasons for creation of literature and for the reading of literature
- explore the concept of a literary "masterpiece"
- gain experience in responding to literature, both subjectively and objectively, through discussion and writing
- become aware of literature from a variety of historical and cultural backgrounds and acquire an understanding of the link between a literary text and its cultural background
- make connections between the literature they read and their own lives, between the works of various literary periods and contemporary civilization
- practice writing about literature, using techniques of literary criticism
- discuss the beliefs and values reflected in the literature

Required student activities:

- close reading of texts as homework assignments for every class period
- participation in discussion of literature (as a class or in small groups)
- final examination (according to CSUF policy and schedule)
- a combination of three or more of the following activities (with writing assignments totaling at least 2,000 words):
 - regular entries in a reading response journal
 - in-class written reading responses
 - in-class essays
 - midterm exam
 - out-of-class essays
 - group discussions and presentations
 - individual presentations
- required attendance

Revised 10/20/98

Attachment # 2: Statement of elements common to all sections of course
Proposed course: English 30 Masterpieces

Grading policy: The grade for the course is based on a combination of grades on written assignments (both in-class and out-of-class), presentations, exams, and participation in class discussions. Each syllabus will contain a grading policy.

Representative text: The Norton Anthology of World Masterpieces is a standard anthology used for the course, sometimes supplemented by 1-4 other works.

Approximate schedule for course:

The course is generally organized in one of two ways:

Organization by chronology: Readings are assigned according to historical chronology with appropriate writing assignments and other activities throughout the semester.

Organization by theme: Readings are grouped by theme with 2-5 weeks devoted to each theme and writing assignments and other activities tied to each theme.

Attachment # 3: Typical syllabus
Proposed course: English 30 Masterpieces

English 30 - Masterpieces

Chris Henson

Office: Peters 434

Office phone: 278-2140; Department phone: 278-2553

Office hours: 12:10-2:00 TTh; 4:00-5:00 TTh and by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION: In this course we will be reading a wide selection of literary texts which are considered "masterpieces." One of the questions we will be asking is "What is a masterpiece?" We will be looking at the historical and cultural contexts for the works, but we will also be looking at why these works continue to be read, why they have been influential, and what relevance they might have for people's lives today. The readings are grouped according to three broad themes: the individual and the family, men and women, and journeys. As you read the selections, you should think about the connections between the ideas of the authors as well as the differences that come from various cultures, time periods, and individual viewpoints. The three themes will provide the basis for the three papers you will write for the course.

TEXTS: The Norton Anthology of World Masterpieces - Maynard Mack, general editor
The Tale of Genji - Murasaki Shikibu
Heart of Darkness - Joseph Conrad
Snow Country - Yasunari Kawabata
The Handmaid's Tale - Margaret Atwood

REQUIREMENTS: 60% - 3 papers, each worth 20 %, 4-6 pages (typed, doublespaced for a total of at least 3,000 words). I will provide suggested topics for these papers, but students may also submit their own topics for approval. For the first paper, the student is required to meet with me while the paper is in progress. I am willing to read and provide feedback on rough drafts for any of the papers. All three papers will require analysis of one or more of the literary works, using techniques of literary criticism. All final drafts will receive written critique.

20% - Quizzes - Unannounced quizzes will be given throughout the semester. Each quiz will be a short essay question covering the reading assignment for that day. Missed quizzes cannot be made up.

20% - Final exam - 2 essay questions
1 conference with instructor

attendance - Regular attendance is essential. If you miss more than 5 classes, you will receive an F in the course.

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Attachment # 3: Typical syllabus

Proposed course: English 30 Masterpieces

SYLLABUS: More specific reading assignments will be given as we get to each of the works in the syllabus.

THE INDIVIDUAL AND THE FAMILY

- Mon., Aug. 28 - Intro. to course (What is a masterpiece?)
- Wed., Aug. 30 - Oedipus the King (discussion of Greek tragedy, the concept of fate, the use of the Oedipus myth today, tragic hero, and other matters)
- Fri., Sept. 1 - Oedipus the King
- Mon., Sept. 4 - NO CLASS - Labor Day
- Wed., Sept. 6 - Oedipus the King
- Fri., Sept. 8 - Tartuffe (discussion of French Neoclassical comedy, comic staging, Age of Reason, and other matters)
- Mon., Sept. 11 - Tartuffe
- Wed., Sept. 13 - Tartuffe
- Fri., Sept. 15 - The Death of Ivan Ilyich (discussion of attitudes toward death, Russian Realism, Tolstoy's Christian anarchism, and other matters)
- Mon., Sept. 18 - The Death of Ivan Ilyich
Assignment for Paper # 1 handed out - discussion of approaches to writing about literature
- Wed., Sept. 20 - The Metamorphosis (discussion of the concept of the absurd, Modernism, existentialism, and other matters)
- Fri., Sept. 22 - The Metamorphosis
- Mon., Sept. 25 - NO CLASS - Student conferences
- Wed., Sept. 27 - Hedda Gabler (discussion of modern European tragedy, women's roles and rights, Realism, and other matters)
- Fri., Sept. 29 - Hedda Gabler

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Attachment # 3: Typical syllabus
Proposed Course: Engl. 30 Masterpieces

MEN AND WOMEN

- Mon., Oct. 2 - Phaedra (discussion of classical mythology-myth of Phaedra and Hippolytus, French Neoclassical tragedy, Age of Reason, and other matters)
- Wed., Oct. 4 - Phaedra
- Fri., Oct. 6 - Lysistrata (discussion of Greek comedy, roles of women, anti-war literature, and other matters)
- Mon., Oct. 9 - Lysistrata
- Wed., Oct. 11 - The Tale of Genji (discussion of Medieval Japan, roles of women, Genji as hero, and other matters)
- Fri., Oct. 13 - The Tale of Genji
- Mon., Oct. 16 - The Tale of Genji
- Wed., Oct. 18 - The Handmaid's Tale (discussion of religious fundamentalism, roles of women, science fiction, theocracies, and other matters)
- Fri., Oct. 20 - The Handmaid's Tale
- Mon., Oct. 23 - The Handmaid's Tale
Assignment for Paper # 2 handed out - more discussion of approaches to writing about literature
- Wed., Oct. 25 - Snow Country (discussion of contemporary Japanese novel, influence of haiku and other Japanese poetry, and other matters)
- Fri., Oct. 27 - Snow Country
- Mon., Oct. 30 - Snow Country
- Wed., Nov. 1 - Snow Country

JOURNEYS

- Fri., Nov. 3 - Candide (discussion of satire, concept of Utopia, and other matters)

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- Mon., Nov. 6 - Candide
- Wed., Nov. 8 - Candide
Paper # 2 due
- Fri., Nov. 10 - Don Quixote (discussion of the romantic quest, satire, and other matters)
- Mon., Nov. 13 - Don Quixote
- Wed., Nov. 15 - Don Quixote
- Fri., Nov. 17 - Don Quixote
- Mon., Nov. 20 - The Divine Comedy - Inferno
Assignment for Paper # 3 handed out - more discussion of approaches to writing about literature
- Wed., Nov. 22 - Inferno (discussion of concepts of sin, hell, and other matters)
- Fri., Nov. 24 - NO CLASS - Thanksgiving
- Mon., Nov. 27 - Inferno
- Wed., Nov. 29 - Inferno
- Fri., Dec. 1 - Heart of Darkness (discussion of concepts of sin, inner "darkness," colonialism, and other matters)
- Mon., Dec. 4 - Heart of Darkness
- Wed., Dec. 6 - Heart of Darkness
- Fri., Dec. 8 - Hiroshima Mon Amour (discussion of love in modern world, nuclear threat, film vs. screenplay, and other matters)
Paper # 3 due
- Mon., Dec. 11 - Hiroshima Mon Amour
Review for final exam
- FINAL EXAM** - Friday, Dec. 15 - 10:00-12:00

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Attachment # 3: Typical syllabus
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REMINDER: Students with disabilities have the responsibility to identify themselves to the instructor so that reasonable accommodations for learning and evaluation can be made.

UNIVERSITY POLICY ON CHEATING AND PLAGIARISM: The University has a written policy on cheating and plagiarism which specifies the consequences of such acts, including failure in a course or expulsion from the University. A full statement of this policy is available from the Dean of Student Affairs Office, Joyal Administration Bldg., Room 262.

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