# **COURSE OUTLINE**

**English 123**

**American Literature from 1865 to the Present**

1. **Catalog Statement**

English 123 is designed to give a generous sample of the works of major American writers from the Civil War to the present day. The course is intended to enrich the student’s understanding of selected major American works. The important literary movements with their sociological implications are traced so that the student can acquire a background for critical judgment of contemporary American writing.

#### Units – 3.0

Lecture Hours – 3.0

Prerequisite: None

1. **Course Entry Expectations**

Skills Level Ranges: Reading 6; Writing 6; Listening/Speaking 6; Math 1

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Prior to enrolling in this course, the student should be able to:

1. organize and write thesis-based essays
2. use detailed examples, facts, logical explanations, and other appropriate support for thesis statements
3. critically analyze selected prose works dealing with important contemporary issues
4. summarize, analyze, and synthesize information, express and apply standards for judgment, compare and contrast, and evaluate evidence in order to form and state reasoned opinions
5. gather and organize information through library research
6. demonstrate a command of grammar, diction, syntax, and mechanics sufficient for college level work as specified by the English 120 rubric.
7. **Course Exit Standards**

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

1. develop an appreciation for the works of American authors from the Civil War to the present,
2. gain insight into American society through a study of its major authors,
3. analyze assigned readings for ideas and style,
4. synthesize and relate readings to personal ideas and experience,
5. improve writing abilities through composition assignments and examinations,
6. develop skills of critical judgment.

**IV**. **Course Content**

A. Slavery 3 hours

1. Introduction
2. Douglass
3. Stowe

B. Dickinson 2 hours

C. Twain 3 hours

D. Local Color 3 hours

1. Harte
2. Harris
3. Chopin

E. Realism – Naturalism 6 hours

1. Howells
2. James
3. Wharton
4. Garland
5. Crane
6. Dreiser

F. The Modern Poets 8 hours

1. Robinson
2. Frost
3. Sandburg
4. Stevens
5. Williams
6. Pound
7. Cummings

G. Social Criticism 6 hours

1. Anderson
2. Fitzgerald
3. O’Neill
4. Jeffers
5. MacLeish
6. Hughes

H. Search for Reality 7 hours

1. Porter
2. Faulkner
3. Hemingway
4. Wolfe
5. Steinbeck

I. Recent Trends 10 hours

1. Malamud
2. O’Conner
3. Roethke
4. Mailer
5. Black Poets
6. Bellow
7. Ginsberg
8. Sexton
9. Plath
10. **Methods of Presentation**

The following instructional methodologies may be used in the course:

1. lectures, directed class discussions, small-group discussions, peer group writing workshops, individual conferences, small-group conferences, and student presentations
2. writing, both in and out of class, will be an integral part of the course
3. collaborative learning
4. educational technologies including word processing, Internet, and electronic presentation.
5. **Assignments and Methods of Evaluation**
6. two one-hour essay exams
7. one objective one-hour quiz
8. one two-and-one-half hour objective and essay final.

**VII**. **Textbook**

McMichael, Anthology of American Lit. Vol. II, 9th edition, Prentice Hall, 2004

1. **Student Learning Outcomes**

Upon successful completion, the student will be able to:

1. understand the development of American literature from the Civil War to the present day; identify major literary movements and the social and cultural developments which have impacted literary production.
2. read critically in order to analyze and interpret literary elements.
3. write analytical, thesis-centered essays applying themes and trends in contemporary literature and which analyze and interpret literary elements.