

**College of San Mateo
Official Course Outline**

1. **COURSE ID:** LIT. 113 **TITLE:** The Novel
Units: 3.0 units **Hours/Semester:** 48.0-54.0 Lecture hours
Method of Grading: Letter Grade Only
Prerequisite: Eligibility for ENGL 100 or ENGL 105

2. **COURSE DESIGNATION:**
Degree Credit
Transfer credit: CSU; UC
AA/AS Degree Requirements:
 CSM - GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS: E2b. English, literature, Speech Communication
 CSM - GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS: E2c. Communication and Analytical Thinking
 CSM - GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS: E5c. Humanities
CSU GE:
 CSU GE Area C: ARTS AND HUMANITIES: C2 - Humanities (Literature, Philosophy, Languages Other than English)
IGETC:
 IGETC Area 3: ARTS AND HUMANITIES: B: Humanities

3. **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:**
Catalog Description:
 Study of a representative selection of novels of the 19th, 20th and 21st Centuries and of various aspects of literary criticism. Authors may include Jane Austen, Charlotte and Emily Bronte, Thomas Hardy, Henry James, William Faulkner, Gabriel Garcia Marquez, among others. Lectures, discussions, and related reading.

4. **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOME(S) (SLO'S):**
 Upon successful completion of this course, a student will meet the following outcomes:
 1. Demonstrate familiarity with a variety of representative novels from the 19th, 20th, and 21st century, identifying major literary, cultural, and historical themes.
 2. Present a critical, independent analysis of themes in one or more novels of the 19th, 20th, and 21st century in the form of a project, paper, or presentation.

5. **SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES:**
 Upon successful completion of this course, a student will be able to:
All Student Learning Outcomes listed previously are course objectives as well. Other course objectives include the ability to do the following:
 1. Read and evaluate with understanding and appreciation major novels of the 19th, 20th, and 21st Centuries
 2. Apply critical thinking skills in analyzing and comparing novels from various eras as part of class discussion and written response
 3. Recognize the importance of literature in its reflection of human experience.

6. **COURSE CONTENT:**
Lecture Content:
 1. Students will examine the following areas of content for the course:
 - A. The craft of fiction: various techniques used in the writing of novels, such as plot, theme, characterization, types of narration, etc. The course will evaluate how styles of fiction change over the course of centuries to reflect the tastes and expectations of readers;
 - B. Major historical events and their influence upon and relationship to novels, such as the expansion and then dissolution of the British Empire, the burgeoning women's movement, the Civil War, the Cold War, and other such events.
 - C. Major literary innovations and techniques, such as stream of consciousness, magical realism, and postcolonial perspectives in the 20th and 21st Century novels;
 - D. The history and uniqueness of the novel as one of the latest of literary forms, distinct from drama, short stories, and poetry;
 - E. Selected literary theories, such as reader-response criticism, biographical criticism, Marxist and feminist criticism, etc., to demonstrate how these theories can shape a reader's interpretation of a

novel.

- Students may examine works of literary criticism from various centuries to gauge how scholars and society responded to the various novels under discussion.
- The typical activities students will engage in include but are not limited to the following: reading, discussion, and writing about literature. Student groups may be asked to research and present topics related to the novels. Some attendance of live performances, readings, and outside lectures may be included.
- Novels chosen should reflect exemplary writing from both genders and diverse ethnicities and nationalities. Novels should be representative of their eras and should be selected primarily for their importance in the development of the novel from the 19th to 21st Centuries. Possible authors include but are not limited to the following:
 - 19th Century: Jane Austen, Henry Fielding, Charlotte and Emily Brontë Charles Dickens
 - 20th Century: Thomas Hardy, D.H. Lawrence, Ernest Hemingway, William Faulkner, E.M. Forster, Virginia Woolf, Alice Walker, Charles Frazier, Isabel Allende, Gabriel Garcia-Marquez, Zora Neale Hurston, Margaret Atwood
 - 21st Century: Tobias Woolf, Jeffrey Eugenides, Ian McEwan, Ann Tyler, Junot Diaz
- Writing of critical papers

7. REPRESENTATIVE METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

Typical methods of instruction may include:

- A. Discussion
- B. Other (Specify): Reading Assignments, Writing Assignments, Critical Thinking, Outside Readings, Lectures, Live Performances, Films

8. REPRESENTATIVE ASSIGNMENTS

Representative assignments in this course may include, but are not limited to the following:

Writing Assignments:

Students will write formal essays (totaling approximately 4,000 words for the semester) on selected novels. Students may write short, informal in-class responses/reactions to particular issues or passages in the novels or related literature.

Reading Assignments:

Students will be expected to prepare for class by staying current with the assigned readings, whether of the novels themselves or of literary criticism or materials on historical events pertaining to the novels. Students will read between six to eight novels per semester, depending on length of the selected novels

Other Outside Assignments:

Some current authors of novels selected for the class reside in the Bay Area and give readings and lectures-such as ones delivered at College of San Mateo in our speakers series. Many films are also available, either representing the novels themselves or adding related cultural or historical perspectives to the novels selected for the course. Often live performances of related importance to the novels are available to students in the greater Bay Area, who may be asked to attend some of these events listed above.?

9. REPRESENTATIVE METHODS OF EVALUATION

Representative methods of evaluation may include:

- A. Exams/Tests
- B. Written examination
- C. Essays: Students will write critical, out-of-class essays (totaling approximately 4000 words for the semester). Testing: Students will take quizzes, a midterm examination, and a final examination. Group presentations may also contribute to a student's overall grade.

10. REPRESENTATIVE TEXT(S):

Other:

- A. 19th Century: Pride and Prejudice; Jane Eyre; Wuthering Heights
- B. 20th Century: The Turn of the Screw; A Passage to India; A Farewell to Arms; Their Eyes Were Watching God; The House of the Spirits; Cold Mountain

Origination Date: November 2015
Curriculum Committee Approval Date: March 2016
Effective Term: Fall 2016
Course Originator: Daniel Keller

