

Common Course Outline for: ENGL 2150: American Literature: Beginnings to 1865**A. Course Description**

1. Number of credits: 4
2. Lecture hours per week: 4
Lab hours per week: *None*
Prerequisites: ENGC 0900 or placement in ENGC 1101, and READ 0960 or placement in READ 1106
MnTC Goals: Goal 6

This course focuses on four main literary genres: fiction, poetry, drama, and literary nonfiction. Students will explore authors from America's beginnings to the Civil War.

B. Date last reviewed: January 2020**C. Outline of Major Content Areas**

1. Pre-Columbian Voices
2. The Literature of Discovery and Exploration
3. The Literature of European Settlement
4. 17th Century Poets and Polemicists
5. The Colonial Period 1700-1800: Pre-Revolutionary Writers
6. Enlightenment Voices and Revolutionary Visions
7. The New National Literature and the Romantic Vision
8. Voices and the Oppressed
9. The Transcendental Vision
10. Ethical Idealism

D. Course Learning Outcomes

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

1. Identify canonical works and major genres and styles of American literature. (Goal 6a)
2. Place writers with respect to the major periods and historical developments in American literature. (Goal 6b)
3. Identify the themes of the works read and the characteristic features of their styles. (Goal 6c)
4. Articulate the political, social, and economic features of the period, noting literary reflections of or reactions to changes in these spheres. (Goals 9b, 9c, and 9d)
5. Read closely, critically, and analytically, framing the kinds of questions modern students of literature use as their chief tools in arriving at critical insights about their subject. (Goals 6e, 2a, 2b, and 2d)

E. Methods for Assessing Student Learning

1. Attendance and participation
2. Tests/quizzes
3. Essays
4. Journals
5. Collaborative Projects

F. Special Information: None