



## MASTER COURSE OUTLINE

Prepared By:

Date: March 2008

## COURSE TITLE

The American Novel

## GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION

Dept.: ENGL

Course Num: 243

(Formerly: ENG 243)

CIP Code: 23.0801

Intent Code: 11

Program Code:

Credits: 5

Total Contact Hrs Per Qtr.: 55

Lecture Hrs: 55

Lab Hrs: 0

Other Hrs: 0

Distribution Designation: Humanities HU

## COURSE DESCRIPTION (as it will appear in the catalog)

An introduction to the major American novels of the 19th and 20th centuries. Novel will be chosen from the works of major writers such as Melville, Hawthorne, Crane, James, Dreiser, Hemingway, Fitzgerald, Salinger, and Mailer.

## PREREQUISITES

None

## TEXTBOOK GUIDELINES

Paperback novels

## COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

*Upon successful completion of the course, students should be able to demonstrate the following knowledge or skills:*

1. Speak and write intelligently about some of the novels, authors and literary movements of American literature.
2. Understand the significance of the American novel.
3. Distinguish between good fiction and trash.

## INSTITUTIONAL OUTCOMES

IO1 Communication: Students will be able to communicate clearly and effectively.

## COURSE CONTENT OUTLINE

- I. Early Novels: Its significance
  - A. The Romantic Novel.
  - B. The significant writers: Melville, Cooper, and Hawthorne.
- II. The Movement into Realism.
  - A. The influence of Mark Twain.
  - B. The importance of William Dean Howells.
- III. The Naturalists and the Movement into the 20th Century

- A. The accomplishments of Steven Crane.
  - B. Dreiser's successes and controversies.
  - C. The novel before World War I.
- IV. The Great Period of American Fiction: 1920-1940
- A. The influence of World War I.
  - B. The novels and roles of Hemingway, Fitzgerald and Faulkner.
  - C. John Steinbeck and the great American Novel.

**DEPARTMENTAL GUIDELINES** *(optional)*

The class will be based on lecture/discussion. Some credit will be given for class participation. The formal grades will be based on two to four essay exams and at least two outside papers.

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**DIVISION CHAIR APPROVAL**

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**DATE**