ENGLISH 1400: THEMATIC APPROACHES TO THE STUDY OF LITERATURE

Introduction to ENGL 1400

This course provides an introduction to the study of literature, with emphasis on the development of reading and writing skills. Poetry, prose, and drama from various thematic perspectives. While the content of this course is different in each section, all sections are based upon a representative sample of literary works, techniques, concepts and genres. Units may be divided along the lines of literary form, historical period, literary movements, national literatures, and so on.

Policy Requirements

All sections of ENGL 1400 must have:

- A maximum of four units.
- A minimum of three writing assignments. These may be as short as a paragraph or as long as 2000 words. Assignments will total between 3,000 and 5,000 words.

The Written English Policy mandated by the University Senate stipulates that students produce a minimum of three pieces of written work of 3-5 pages, or two pieces of 6-8 pages, with a total count of no fewer than 3,000 words. In order for in-class essays and journal assignments to be included in the 3,000 word total, instructors must provide detailed written commentary on individual submissions.

- A two-hour final examination, worth between 40% and 60% of the final grade, is mandatory. The course syllabus must clearly state the relative value of the final exam within the final grade. The exam must be closed-book and written during the scheduled examination period. Exam questions must NOT be made available to students before the exam.

The final exam is designed to test students’ abilities to write clearly and cogently about literary topics. The criteria of 1400 suggest that the final exam should consist of two essay answers from among four questions, but this is only a guideline. It is also permissible to ask students to answer a number of short answer questions, as long as their answers are in paragraph form. Instructors may use sight passages or identification questions as long as students could still pass the question if they are wrong about the author and title of the extract. One section of the exam (50%) should require a full-length essay. Questions for the final exam MUST ask students to discuss form as well as content and should not be strictly thematic in nature.

[Amended and approved by Department Council – April 10, 2019]