DEPT.  English                      COURSE NO.  2201

NUMBER OF CREDITS:  3

COURSE TITLE:  American Literature 1

CATALOG DESCRIPTION:  Introduces prominent American writers and influential literary works that have shaped American cultural identity from the colonial period through the Civil War. The course takes a broad view of the traditional canon to include writers and works from many areas of America’s past. Instructors recommend that students complete ENGL 1105 or an advanced high school literature class before registering for this course.

AUDIENCE:  All students

FULFILLS MN TRANSFER CURRICULUM AREA(S):
Area 6, Humanities and Fine Arts, by meeting competencies a, b, c, and e. Area 7, Human Diversity, by meeting competencies a, b, c, and d.

PREREQUISITES OR NECESSARY ENTRY SKILLS/KNOWLEDGE:  Instructors recommend that students complete ENGL 1105 or an advanced high school literature class before registering for this course.

LENGTH OF COURSE One semester

THIS COURSE IS USUALLY OFFERED:
Every year fall X spring summer undetermined ☐

Four goals are emphasized in course at Minnesota West Community & Technical College:
1)  ACADEMIC CONTENT: Students will become familiar with writers, trends, and themes of American literature from the colonies through the American Civil War.

2)  THINKING SKILLS: Students will analyze and discuss the ideas, strengths and weaknesses, and elements of evocative writing demonstrated in the literature included in this course. Students will be encouraged to notice themes, patterns of human behavior, imagery and metaphor and describe them both in discussion and in writing.

3)  COMMUNICATIONS SKILLS: Students will communicate through online discussion, writing assignments, and subjective essay examinations.

4)  HUMAN DIVERSITY: Students will be exposed to a variety of ways to understand life and humanity in fictional and real settings. Students will discover how America’s constantly changing economy, environment, politics and populations influenced writers and shaped language and literature. They will notice
changes in characters that represent both mainstream and diverse cultures in American essays, fiction, poetry, and drama.

TOPICS TO BE COVERED: Major forms of American writing and writers from the colonies through the mid 18th Century

LIST OF EXPECTED COURSE OUTCOMES:
1. Students will know and understand major influences on early American writing
2. Students will know and understand major themes of early American writing
3. Students will recognize and appreciate timeless elements of early American writing.
4. Students will recognize names of major American writers and associate them with their works.
5. Students will enhance their ability to analyze and understand the roles of character, metaphor, plot, setting and structure in all literature.
6. Students will develop and improve their critical thinking skills.

LEARNING/TEACHING TECHNIQUES used in the course are:
X Collaborative Learning  Problem Solving
X Student Presentations  Interactive Lectures
X Creative Projects  Individual Coaching
X Lecture  Films/Videos/Slides
X Demonstrations  Other (describe below)
Lab  Discussion Forums

ASSIGNMENTS AND ASSESSMENTS FOR THIS CLASS INCLUDE:
X Reading  X Tests  Individual Projects
X Oral Presentations  X Worksheets  Collaborative Projects
X Textbook Problems  X Papers  Portfolio
X Group Problems  Term Paper
X Other (describe below)

Mandatory participation in online Discussions

EXPECTED STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES: This course will prepare students for more profound participation in the world by exposing them to writers and works that are deeply engrained in the collective consciousness of Western Civilization. They will also learn more about their own humanity by studying the thoughts and words of those who have gone before to explore universal issues and questions.

The information in this course outline is subject to revision

Veteran Services: Minnesota West is dedicated to assisting veterans and eligible family members in achieving their educational goals efficiently. Active duty and reserve/guard military members should advise their instructor of all regularly scheduled military appointments and duties that conflict with scheduled course requirements. Instructors will make every effort to work with the student to identify adjusted timelines. If you are a veteran, please contact the Minnesota West Veterans Service Office.

To receive reasonable accommodations for a documented disability, please contact the campus Student Services Advisor or campus Disability Coordinator as arrangements must be made in advance. In addition, students are encouraged to notify their instructor.

This document is available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by contacting the Student Services Advisor or by calling 800-658-2330 or Minnesota Relay Service at 800-627-3529 or by using your preferred relays service.