

VERNON COLLEGE
SYLLABUS

DIVISION: Communications

DATE: 2011-2012

COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE: ENGL 1302 Composition II

CREDIT HRS: 3

HRS/WK LEC: 3

HRS/WK LAB: 0

LEC/LAB COMB: 3

I. VERNON COLLEGE GENERAL EDUCATION PHILOSOPHY STATEMENT

General education at Vernon College reflects the institution's deep conviction that successful, satisfying lives require a wide range of skills and knowledge. We are dedicated to providing educational opportunities that develop the academic, career, and personal capabilities of individuals so they may achieve self-fulfillment and participate fully and positively in a democratic society. Vernon College has identified the following college-level competencies generated from the general education core:

GENERAL EDUCATION CORE COMPETENCIES:

- A. Critical Thinking: Students will evaluate the validity of ideas through a creative process of questioning, analyzing, and synthesizing.
- B. Communication/Interpersonal: Students will develop effective reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills to communicate verbally and nonverbally.
- C. Scientific and Mathematical Literacy: Students will apply an understanding of mathematical, natural, and behavioral scientific principles and methods to solve abstract and practical problems.
- D. Information Literacy: Students will develop the information literacy skills to confidently and competently locate, use, and evaluate information.
- E. Cultural Literacy: Students will develop an appreciation of human culture and its diversity and the role of the creative arts in society.

II. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

Analysis of literary, expository, and persuasive texts; and critical thinking. Includes research methods and a required documented paper. Prerequisite: ENGL 1301. Special Fee: \$22.00

III. REQUIRED BACKGROUND:

Successful completion of ENGL 1301 or a similar course from another college or by CLEP exam.

IV. TEXTS, OTHER REFERENCE MATERIALS:

Meyer, Michael. The Bedford Introduction to Literature: Reading, Thinking, Writing. Ninth Edition. New York: Bedford/St. Martin's Press, 2011.

Howard, Rebecca. *Writing Matters: A Handbook for Writing and Research*. 1st ed. New York: McGraw-Hill, 2011. Print.

A good college-level dictionary

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V. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

Lecture, discussion, some small group activities, showing of audiovisual aids as appropriate, introduction to the use of the library for research.

Students desiring auxiliary aids and services for this course should make their requests to the instructor and the Special Services Director.

VI. COURSE CONTENT:

1. The course will include the study of three literary genres: short story, poetry, and drama.
2. Students will be required to learn terminology appropriate to the various genres, analyze literary works, and write analytical essays about literature.
3. In addition, students will be introduced to the principles of writing the term paper: finding a topic, researching the literature, developing a thesis supported by fact and expert opinion, and documenting the sources used according to the conventions of documentation chosen by the instructor for the class.
4. A library research paper is a requirement for this course. Topic matter is not necessarily restricted to literature.

VII. COURSE OUTCOMES:

Emphasis will be upon acquisition of terminology applicable to literary course content and an application of those elements/terms through testing and writing of papers. By the end of this course each student should be able to do the following with at least a minimum degree of proficiency:

Reading

1. Summarize/discuss the plot line of a literary work.
2. Identify the general and specific settings and comment on the significance of that setting to that work.
3. Develop or express a statement of theme (author's purpose) inherent in the work.
4. Analyze character by method of presentation, believability, fullness of development.
5. Identify who is telling the story/from what narrative point of view the story is told.
6. Identify forms of poetry; types and characteristics of drama.

Writing

1. Develop essays about some aspects of literary works using the principles of essay writing learned in English 1301 Composition I. All or some of these essays may use some principles of documentation.

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2. Select and limit a topic worthy of some significant research and development for the documented library paper.
3. Exhibit proper format and forms appropriate to documented writing.
4. Develop a fully documented library paper of 2000 words minimum.

VIII. ASSESSMENT:

The student will demonstrate proficiency in the objectives listed above through participation in class activities/ projects, performance on quizzes/examinations, and completion of assigned essays and a significant research paper.