ENG 236

African American Literature

Course Description
This course is a critical study of African American literature examined from the historical, social, and psychological perspectives.

Prerequisite: ENG 102

3.0 Cr (3 lect/pres, 0 lab, 0 other)

Course Focus
This course is highly recommended for those wanting to better understand the American literature canon, which is very diverse in nature and thus must include the African American experience.

Text and References

ENG 200+ Level Core Curriculum Competencies

All courses approved for the general education core curriculum help students develop communication skills and/or critical thinking.

This course develops communication skills through instruction that emphasizes literary analysis and expression of ideas in clear, precise language structured according to the conventions of Standard Written/Oral English, as demonstrated in the following:

• Formal essays consisting of multiple paragraphs unified by a thesis and drawing upon relevant supporting ideas to adduce a logical, coherent whole, as well as the finding, evaluation, and synthesis of credible information on a given topic, culminating in a thesis that unifies the whole and establishes the student’s ability to derive a definable position on the topic.
This course develops critical thinking skills through instruction that emphasizes problem formation and analysis of evidence, as demonstrated in the following:

- Through course discussions (both oral and written) and essays in which students must analyze the literature based on the application of literary terms, movements, theory and skills presented in the course.

Course Goals
The following list of course goals will be addressed in the course. These goals are directly related to the performance objectives. (*designates a CRUCIAL goal)

1. Attend all classes
2. Demonstrate punctuality
3. Demonstrate dependability
4. Form a group
5. Assign group responsibilities
6. Use successful group strategies
7. Respect other opinions
8. Read primary sources
9. Survey African American literature canon
10. Recognize useful literary devices
11. Apply literary criticism principles
12. Trace period themes
13. Discuss period themes
14. Trace period trends
15. Discuss period trends
16. Trace period writing styles
17. Discuss period writing styles
18. Contribute regularly to class discussions
19. Identify cultural influences
20. Evaluate cultural impact
21. Identify political influences
22. Evaluate political impact
23. Identify social influences
24. Evaluate social impact
25. Examine historical influences
26. Assess historical impact
27. Describe major periods or movements
28. Recognize contributions of major writers
29. Develop critical thinking skills
30. Develop as a literary critic
31. Compare major literary figures
32. Contrast major literary figures
33. Differentiate various genres
34. Complete topical exams
35. Read secondary sources
36. Conduct scholarly research
Develop literary arguments
Do group oral presentation
Utilize visual media
Synthesize scholarly research
Write formal essay
Incorporate textual evidence
Use MLA formatting
Use MLA documentation
Value African American literary contributions

Student Contributions
Each student will spend at least 6 hours per week preparing for class. Attendance is critical in this class. Please arrive on time and stay for full class period; tardies can result in an absence.

Because this is a reading intensive course, students need to prepare accordingly. Also, students must demonstrate ability to read critically as well as analyze and interpret various genres. Participation in both group discussions and full-class discussions is a fundamental expectation.

Course Evaluation
Student progress and evaluation in the course will determined by exams; class participation, which will include individual as well as collaborative written responses to readings; a minimum of two short essays; a group presentation; and a final research essay. Length and scope of responses, short essays, and research essay will be discussed in class.

Grading will be in accordance with the College's published grading scale found at the TCL website.

Course Schedule
The class meets for 3 lecture/presentation hours per week.

Developed/Revised: March 1, 2010

ADA STATEMENT
The Technical College of the Lowcountry provides access, equal opportunity and reasonable accommodation in its services, programs, activities, education and employment for individuals with disabilities. To request disability accommodation, contact the counselor for students with disabilities at (843) 525-8228 during the first ten business days of the academic term.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT
There is no tolerance at TCL for academic dishonesty and misconduct. The College expects all students to conduct themselves with dignity and to maintain high standards of responsible citizenship.

It is the student’s responsibility to address any questions regarding what might constitute academic misconduct to the course instructor for further clarification.

The College adheres to the Student Code for the South Carolina Technical College System. Copies of the Student Code and Grievance Procedure are provided in the TCL Student Handbook, the Division Office, and the Learning Resources Center.
ATTENDANCE
The College’s statement of policy indicates that students must attend ninety percent of total class hours or they will be in violation of the attendance policy.

- Students not physically attending class during the first ten calendar days from the start of the semester must be dropped from the class for NOT ATTENDING.
- Students taking an online/internet class must sign in and communicate with the instructor within the first ten calendar days from the start of the semester to indicate attendance in the class. Students not attending class during the first ten calendar days from the start of the semester must be dropped from the class for NOT ATTENDING.
- Reinstatement requires the signature of the division dean.
- In the event it becomes necessary for a student to withdraw from the course OR if a student stops attending class, it is the student’s responsibility to initiate and complete the necessary paperwork. Withdrawing from class may have consequences associated with financial aid and time to completion.
- When a student exceeds the allowed absences; the student is in violation of the attendance policy. The instructor MUST withdrawal the student with a grade of “W”, “WP”, or “WF” depending on the date the student exceeded the allowed absences and the student’s progress up to the last date of attendance or
- Under extenuating circumstances and at the discretion of the faculty member teaching the class, allow the student to continue in the class and make-up the work. This exception must be documented at the time the allowed absences are exceeded.
- Absences are counted from the first day of class. There are no "excused" absences. All absences are counted, regardless of the reason for the absence.
  - A student must take the final exam or be excused from the final exam in order to earn a non-withdrawal grade.
  - A copy of TCL’s STATEMENT OF POLICY NUMBER: 3-1-307 CLASS ATTENDANCE (WITHDRAWAL) is on file in the Division Office and in the Learning Resources Center.

HAZARDOUS WEATHER
In case weather conditions are so severe that operation of the College may clearly pose a hardship on students and staff traveling to the College, notification of closing will be made through the following radio and television stations: WYKZ 98.7, WGCO 98.3, WGZO 103.1, WFXH 106.1, WWVV 106.9, WLOW 107.9, WGR 104.9, WFXH 1130 AM, WLHV 101.1, WSO 1230 AM, WAEV 97.3, WTCV TV, WTGS TV, WJW TV, and WSAV TV. Students, faculty and staff are highly encouraged to opt in to the Emergency Text Message Alert System. www.tcl.edu/textalert.asp

EXTRA:

Emergency Text Message Alert
Students, faculty and staff are highly encouraged to opt in to the Emergency Text Message Alert System. Participants receive immediate notification of emergency events and weather cancelations via text messaging on their cell phones. Participants can also opt in to receive non-emergency news and announcements. Go to www.tcl.edu. On the homepage, click on “emergency TextAlert at TCL” and fill out the form or go to www.tcl.edu/textalert.asp
GRADING METHODOLOGY
The final grade must be 70 or more in order to pass the course and progress in the program. Students absent from an examination or presentation will receive a “0” grade for the examination unless other arrangements are made with the individual instructor prior to the examination or presentation day or on the examination or presentation day before the test/presentation is scheduled to be given.

The student is responsible for notifying the instructor for the reason of the absence. It is also the responsibility of the student to contact the appropriate instructor to arrange to make up the examination. Arrangements may be completed by telephone.

If the instructor is not available, a message should be left on the instructor’s voice mail AND with another member of the faculty or administrative assistant. The make-up exam will be scheduled and the instructor will decide the method of examination. Messages sent by other students are unacceptable.