NOVA COLLEGE-WIDE COURSE CONTENT SUMMARY  
ENG 125 - INTRODUCTION TO LITERATURE (3 CR.)

Course Description

Introduces students to a range of literary genres that may include poetry, fiction, drama, creative nonfiction, and other cultural texts, as it continues to develop college writing. Lecture 3 hours per week

General Course Purpose

Prepares students for writing in the humanities, and for reading and responding to a variety of texts to develop an understanding and appreciation of human ideals.

Course Prerequisites/Co-requisites

Students must have successfully completed ENG 111 or its equivalent, and must be able to use word processing software.

Course Objectives

GOAL ONE: LEARNING BASIC LITERARY TERMS
Students will be taught the language they need to approach literature meaningfully. By the end of the course, students will be able to:
- use the standard terms of plot development;
- use the standard terms that describe figurative language;
- identify varieties of point of view; and
- understand and apply a vocabulary of basic formal conventions.

GOAL TWO: RECOGNIZING CONVENTIONS OF GENRE
Students will be taught to recognize significant formal similarities among texts. By the end of the course, students will be able to:
- define major dramatic types, such as tragedy, comedy and melodrama;
- recognize the development of traditional themes and their variations in numerous examples of one genre;
- recognize a variety of poetic forms; and
- understand the relationship between structure and meaning.

GOAL THREE: USING INTERPRETIVE METHODS
Students will be introduced to different ways of reading and interpreting literature (formalist, reader/response, evaluative, etc.) By the end of the course, students will have:
- examined a single work from a variety of interpretive perspectives;
- engaged in classroom exercises that illustrate different ways of reading and interpreting literature;
- written analyses based on some or all of these perspectives; and
- recognized the validity of different perspectives as representing human diversity and universal themes.

GOAL FOUR: WRITING SKILLS
Students will continue to improve their writing skills. By the end of the course, students will have:
- written a minimum of 3500 words of graded text, including at least two formal essays;
- engaged in all phases of the writing process: prewriting, drafting, revising, editing, and reflecting;
- employed a clear focus that guides their choice of evidence, language, and organization;
• effectively applied organizational strategies to open and close their texts and to move the reader between and within main ideas, paragraphs, and sentences; used textual evidence; and appropriately employed grammatical and mechanical conventions in the preparation of readable manuscripts.

Major Topics to be Included

a. Literary terms
b. Traditional literary genres
c. Varieties of interpretive methods
d. The writing process: prewriting, drafting, revising, editing, reflecting