J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College
Course Content Summary

Course Prefix and Number: ENG 215 **Credits**: 3

Course Title: Creative Writing – Fiction I

Course Description: Introduces, in a workshop setting, the fundamentals and techniques of writing short and long fiction. ENG 215 has been designated as a "writing intensive" course according to standards developed by the English department. Prerequisite: ENG 111 or approval by the English department program head. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose: ENG 215 includes both the study and practice of fiction techniques, including plot, characterization, dialogue, setting, tone, point of view, theme, voice, and revision. Students will complete both informal and formal writing assignments and will analyze selected published and non-published fiction. Workshops and peer evaluation will provide class and instructor critiques for students' writing.

Course Prerequisites and Co-requisites:
Prerequisite: ENG 111 or approval by the English department program head

Course Objectives:
Upon completing the course, students will be able to
a. Write a variety of fiction exercises in many styles and on many subjects;
b. Write at least two full-length, developed short stories;
c. Apply the fundamental elements of fiction to their own writing;
d. Revise their own work in a way that demonstrates an understanding of the importance of revision in fiction writing;
e. Critique fiction from the perspective of the writer and apply this ability to both published and their own work; and
f. Market their own fiction by examining sources for publication.

Major Topics to Be Included:
a. Practice in writing fiction, including the completion of informal and formal writing assignments
b. Introduction to the techniques of writing fiction, including plot, characterization, dialogue, setting, tone, point of view, theme, and voice
c. Practice in revising fiction
d. Analysis of selected published and non-published fiction
e. Class and instructor critique of student's writings through class workshops and peer evaluation

Effective Date of Course Content Summary: Spring 2014 (revised 7/24/2014)