

**J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College
Course Content Summary**

Course Prefix and Number: ENG 273

Credits: 3

Course Title: Women in Literature I

Course Description: Examines literature by and about women prior to 1900. Involves critical reading and writing. ENG 273 has been designated as a "writing intensive" course according to standards developed by the English department. ENG 273 and ENG 274 may be taken out of order. Prerequisite: ENG 112 or its equivalent. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose: ENG 273 develops skills in critical literacy, provides opportunities for self-expression, and promotes understanding of literature by and about women from a variety of countries and cultures composed prior to 1900. As a writing intensive course, ENG 273 will provide specific instruction in writing, especially literary analysis, and substantial written and oral feedback on formal writing, with the opportunity to revise at least one formal paper. Upon successful completion of the course, students will have produced at least 12 pages (a minimum of 3000 words) of formal writing, including academic essays and essay examinations, and at least 12 pages (a minimum of 3000 words) of informal writing, including reading responses or journal entries.

Course Prerequisites and Co-requisites:

Prerequisite: ENG 112 or its equivalent

Course Objectives:

Upon completing this course, the student will be able to

- a. Describe, analyze, and interpret themes and features of literary texts from a variety of genres, using appropriate literary terminology;
- b. Demonstrate knowledge of the literary movements covered in the survey, including literary techniques, innovations, major writers, and major texts;
- c. Explain the relationship between literature and the historical and cultural contexts in which it is produced, with particular attention to the shaping of cultural identities as reflected in the literature;
- d. Produce at least 12 pages (a minimum of 3000 words) of formal writing, including academic essays and essay examinations, and at least 12 pages (a minimum of 3000 words) of informal writing, including reading responses or journal entries. Academic writing about literature should include clear argumentation and organization, valid textual evidence for support, and correct documentation;
- e. Participate in interactive discussions, peer reviews, and/or one or more formal individual and/or group multi-modal presentation;
- f. Locate and evaluate information retrieved from electronic sources, such as academic databases and web resources;
- g. Use available electronic technologies for creating and submitting texts; and
- h. Recognize literary study as a means for intellectual, aesthetic, and personal growth, and for engaging meaningful and enduring questions across human cultures.

Major Topics to Be Included:

Students may expect to study the following:

- a. Selected literary texts written by and about women from a variety of cultures composed prior to 1900, including fiction, poetry, drama, and non-fiction
- b. Cultural and historical contexts for texts by women
- c. Social, political, and cultural movements from which the literature emerges

Effective Date of Course Content Summary: Spring 2014 (revised 6/9/2014)