

SYLLABUS  
PART I  
EDISON COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
ENG 221S AMERICAN LITERATURE I  
3 CREDIT HOURS

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Study of America from the beginnings of pre-European settlement until the early 20th century. Students will read, discuss, and write about the historical, social, political, and religious perspectives that influenced the literary expression of the writers. Study includes prose, poetry, and drama. Prerequisite: ENG 121S.

**COURSE GOALS**

The student will:

Bloom's Level		Gen Ed Outcomes
4	1. Analyze and interpret selected texts through reading and oral communication among peers.	1, 2, 4, 5, 6
5	2. Assess the literature for moral and ethical insight.	1, 2, 4, 5, 6
4	3. Analyze individual works from the historical, social, political, and religious perspectives of the era.	4, 6
1	4. Identify the literary techniques the writers employ to create literature.	6
5	5. Critique the similarities and differences of selected writing movements.	
5	6. Evaluate the literary themes for ethical and moral human truths.	1, 2, 6
5	7. Evaluate Internet websites and databases for research purposes.	6
4	8. Analyze through critical thinking the criticism of authors.	1, 6
3	9. Practice and apply respect for learning through teamwork and projects.	2
4	10. Compare human diversity and relationship of the historical era to those of the present.	1, 2, 4, 5, 6

**CORE VALUES**

The Core Values are a set of principles that guide in creating educational programs and environments at Edison. They include communication, ethics, critical thinking, human diversity, inquiry/respect for learning, and interpersonal skills/teamwork. The goals, objectives, and activities in this course will introduce/reinforce these Core Values whenever appropriate.

**TOPIC OUTLINE**

1. Reading of American Literature
  - a. Before European Settlers
  - b. Puritanism
  - c. Rationalism
  - d. American Romanticism
  - e. American Renaissance/Transcendentalism
  - f. Realism
  - g. Early Modernism
2. Written Analysis of Prose, Poetry, and Drama
3. Literary Discussion
4. Analytical Discussion of Literary Criticism
5. Literary Era Comparison