

# Bemidji State University

## ENGL 2250: Understanding Literature

### A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: \*.\*

Lab Hours/Week: \*.\*

OJT Hours/Week: \*.\*

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: Goal 06 - Humanities/Fine Arts

Reading and critical appreciation of various types of literature, such as autobiography, drama, film, novel, poetry, and specialized genres such as "Women in Literature," Bible as Literature," "Science Fiction & Fantasy." Liberal Education Goal Area 6.

**B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES:** 01/31/2006 - Present

### C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Definition of "environment"
2. Environmental literature
3. Role literature plays in our relationship with nonhuman nature
4. How stories shape the ways we see, understand, and interact with the environments we inhabit
5. How gender, ethnicity, class, and national identity shape the stories we tell
6. Can stories change the world?

### D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. be exposed to important authors and books in this field.
2. increase their awareness of environmental literature written in English.
3. increase their vocabulary in the fields of environmental writing, natural history, ecology, and literary criticism.
4. practice writing expository and critical prose, with a specific focus on illustrating abstract ideas with concrete examples.
5. practice writing both creatively and systematically about literature, nature, culture, and place.
6. gain experience reading literature through an environmental lens.
7. gain experience examining the environment through cultural lens.
8. practice interdisciplinary thinking by making connections across disciplines and by exploring different ways of knowing.
9. explore possibilities for involvement in Service Learning.

### E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

Goal 06 - Humanities/Fine Arts

1. Demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.
2. Understand those works as expressions of individual and human values within an historical and social context.
3. Respond critically to works in the arts and humanities.

**F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT**

As noted on course syllabus

**G. SPECIAL INFORMATION**

None noted