

Prepared by the Department of Language and Literature  
Date of Departmental Approval: November 5, 2012  
Date Approved by Curriculum and Programs: January 30, 2013

Effective: Fall 2013

1. **Course Number** ENL228  
**Course Title:** Women Writers
2. **Description:** This course examines traditions and themes especially important in the development of fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and drama written by women, such as *Women Alone*, *Women and Sexuality*, *Women and Work*, *Women and War*, *Women in Love*. An initial overview describing the emergence of women as authors is provided to establish topical and historical contexts. Readings, drawn primarily from modern texts, offer a diverse range of authors, genres, styles, and cultures.
3. **Student Learning Outcomes:** Upon successful completion of this course, students are able to do the following:
  - Read, write, and discuss major themes that pervade the history of literature written by women, with emphasis on selections (in English) drawn from 1880 to the present.
  - Discuss with clarity socio-cultural trends that have affected women's gender equity as literary artists.
  - Recognize, comment upon, and write about a variety of styles present in the works of women authors.
  - Locate critical materials to support selected traditions and themes extant in women's writing. Maintain online annotated bibliography and historical time line of same. Incorporate these resources into class discussions and written assignments.
  - Prepare and present a project synthesizing comprehensive knowledge of the course material.
4. **Credits:** 3 credits
5. **Satisfies General Education Requirement:** Humanities and Fine Arts
6. **Prerequisite:** ENL102
7. **Semester Offered:** Fall (even years)
8. **Suggested General Guidelines for Evaluation:** Primary components determining the semester grade include reading/discussion of literary selections, ongoing written commentaries, a research-based project demonstrating course purposes (including written abstract for distribution, and presentation to class members).
9. **General Topical Outline:**
  - A. Overview—emergence of women authors
    - Summary of trends from medieval period to early 19<sup>th</sup> century
    - Issues of feminism from 1850-present day
  - B. Weekly discussions – Readings may be selected from, but not restricted to, the following writers:  
Virginia Woolf, Zora Neale Hurston, Toni Morrison, Sandra Cisneros, Adrienne Rich, Lucille Clifton, Margaret Edson, Joy Harjo, Margaret Atwood, Marilyn Chin.
  - C. Individual journal keeping provides intertextual responses to authors
  - D. Development and presentation of major literary project, synthesizing the semester-long experience of a journey with women authors.