I. Basic Course Information

A. Course Number and Title: ENGL 236
   English Literature: Romantic Period to the Present

B. New or Modified Course: Modified

C. Date of Proposal: Semester: Spring Year: 2014

D. Sponsoring Department: English

E. Semester Credit Hours: 3.0

F. Weekly Contact Hours : 3.0 Lecture: 3.0
   Laboratory: 0

G. Prerequisite(s): ENGL 111 English Composition I

H. Laboratory Fees: None

I. Name and Telephone Number or E-Mail Address of Department Chair:
   Karen Gaffney: kgaffney@raritanval.edu

II. Catalog Description

Prerequisite(s): ENGL 111 English Composition I

Students in this course read representative and important works of English literature from the late eighteenth century through the twenty-first century. Emphasis is on the development of literary forms in historical, cultural, and political contexts. Various forms of literature, ranging from poetry and fiction to political essays and plays, will be approached against the backdrop of significant events, artistic movements, and philosophical issues involving British writers from the Romantic Period to the present. Topics may include, but are not limited to, ones such as the following: the American and French Revolutions, nature and natural law, slavery, science vs. religion, class consciousness, Industrialism, “the woman question,” and the British Empire and its legacy.

III. Statement of Course Need

English Literature: Romantic Period to the Present provides students with an opportunity
study an important literary period. It is a course typically featured in college English departments and meets the requirements of the College’s general education goals as well as the English Department’s Associate of Arts degree in English. The course transfers to four-year programs as an English elective, a general education elective, a general education elective, or a free elective. English Literature: Romantic Period to the Present provides a foundation for students who choose to major in English or other areas of the Liberal Arts or Humanities.

IV. Place of Course in College Curriculum

A. Free elective
B. The course serves as a General Education course in Humanities or English Literature.
C. This course meets a Category B elective requirement in the English AA degree.
D. To see course transferability: a) for New Jersey schools, go to the NJ Transfer website, www.njtransfer.org; b) for all other colleges and universities, go to the individual websites.

V. Outline of Course Content

Possible course structure and sample writers:
B. Abolition and Slavery: Olaudah Equiano and Mary Prince
C. The Rights of Women: Mary Wollstonecraft and Charlotte Brontë
E. Romanticism and Rebellion: Percy Bysshe Shelley and Charlotte Smith
F. Science and Religion: Mary Shelley
G. Class Consciousness: Thomas Carlyle, Charles Dickens, Thomas Hardy
H. “The Woman Question”: Jane Austen
I. The Great War/Confronting the Modern: Rupert Brooke, Wilfred Owen, Isaac Rosenberg
J. Modernism: James Joyce
K. Images of Colonialism: Joseph Conrad
L. Gender and Sexuality: Katherine Mansfield and D.H. Lawrence
M. “Gendering” Modernism: Virginia Woolf and Jean Rhys
N. World War II and the End of Empire: Sir Winston Churchill, Ngugi wa Thiong’o, and George Orwell
O. Postmodernist Views of British Identity: Caryl Churchill and Harold Pinter
P. Postcolonial Poets: Derek Walcott and Seamus Heaney

VI. General Education and Course Learning Outcomes

A. General Education Learning Outcomes: At the completion of the course, students will be able to
1. Analyze texts within their literary, historical and social contexts, both orally and in writing (GE-NJ 1, 6, 7, *)
2. Use textual evidence to support logical and persuasive claims in writing using appropriate literary terminology (GE-NJ 1, *)
3. Distinguish among and assess commonly accepted approaches and criteria for analyzing literary works (GE-NJ 6, *)
   (*Embedded critical thinking)

B. **Course Learning Outcomes:** At the completion of the course, students will be able to
   1. Explain key characteristics of the historical periods of British literature from the Romantic Period to the present.
   2. Appraise cultural and political values reflected in literary works.
   3. Analyze texts in a contemporary context as well as in their historical context

VII. **Modes of Teaching and Learning**

   A. lecture/discussion
   B. small group work
   C. guest speakers
   D. student oral presentations
   E. simulation/role playing
   F. independent study

VIII. **Grade Determinants**

   A. essays that communicate effectively in standard English with attention to grammar, mechanics, and the finer points of style
   B. exams
   C. class presentations (collaborative and/or individual)
   D. discussion questions
   E. quizzes
   F. class participation
   G. journals
   H. response papers

IX. **Texts and Materials**

   Samples of specific texts that may be featured:

Please Note: The course outline is intended only as a guide to course content and resources. Do not purchase textbooks based on this outline. The RVCC Bookstore is the sole resource for the most up-to-date information about textbooks.
XI. Resources

Students will need to use library databases and other library resources for critical research assignments if the individual instructors choose to assign a research paper.