RARITAN VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ACADEMIC COURSE OUTLINE

FREN – 215 MODERN FRENCH LITERATURE

I. Basic Course Information

A. Course Number and Title: FREN-215: Modern French Literature
B. Date of Revision: Spring 2007
C. Sponsoring Department: Communications and Languages
D. Semester Credit Hours: 3
E. Weekly Contact Hours: 3 Lecture: 3 Lab: 0
F. Pre-requisites: French 202: Intermediate French II or placement test
G. Lab Fees: None

II. Catalog Description

Pre-requisite: FREN 202 – Intermediate French II or placement test.
Aquaints students with Modern French Literature and thought through reading and
discussing such writers such as Baudelaire, Colette, Weil, Camus, Beauvoir, .Senghor,
and Sartre. Examines the impact of World War I and II on French thought. Trends in art,
philosophy and politics are also discussed.

III. Statement of Course Need

This course is designed for the student with intermediate French grammar skills
who would like to develop his or her reading skills and acquire knowledge of the French
classics from the turn of the 20th century to the present.

IV. Place of Course in College Curriculum

A. French 215: Modern French Literature. fulfills a:
   • Free elective
   • General Education elective in Humanities

   B. Course Transferability: French 215: Modern French Literature generally
transfers with equivalent college French courses.

V. Outline of Course Content

A. Vocabulary to:
   • discuss literature and literary characters
   • discuss past events and history
• analyze political trends
• study historical figures
• talk about art trends and literary movements

B. Readings and culture

• French poetry
• French art and literature
• Existentialism
• French theater
• French music
• the Vichy government
• The French Resistance
• the French involvement in World War I and II
• French ecological issues

VI. General Education Goals and Learning Outcomes

A. Education Goals

Students will be able to:

1. appreciate some of the differences and similarities between the cultures of French-speaking countries and that of the U.S. (G.E. 4, G.E. 6)

2. develop a deeper knowledge of one country or one aspect of French culture through a research project or service learning project (G.E.1)

3. write and discuss literary trends in the last century (G.E. 2)

4. produce a research paper analyzing a specific literary topic (G.E.1)

B. Outcomes:

Upon the completion of this course the student will be able to:

• identify France’s greatest painters and writers of the 20th century
• be able to discuss France’s commitment to ecological issues and the environment
• be able to write about French literary and artistic movements of the last century to the present.
• be able to elaborate verbally and in writing in French about the influence of the two World Wars on French literary and artistic movements

VII. Modes of Teaching and Learning

• Lecture/discussion
• Small-group work/collaborative learning
• Computer–assisted instruction
• Laboratory
• Student oral presentations
• Simulation/role-playing
• Field trip
• Audio/video presentations

VIII. Papers, Examination and other Assessment Instruments

• Essays
• Examinations (oral and written)
• Class participation
• Homework
• Quizzes
• Research paper

IX. Grade Determinants

• Prepared oral presentations (G.E.2)
• Listening comprehension exercises (G.E.2,4,6)
• Written quizzes (G.E.2)
• Written exams (G.E.2,4,6)
• Written paper on literary topic (G.E.1,2,3,4,6)
• Service-learning project (G.E.1,2,4,6)

X. Texts and Material

• Various articles from Moore’s Onze Contes, Graded French Reader 4th ed. by Bauer, Littérature by Comeau, Lamoureux
• Film and video
• Audio tapes
• Web sources

XI. Resources
Video capacities in the classroom
Computer/internet capabilities in the classroom