RARITAN VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ACADEMIC COURSE OUTLINE

ENGL 226: INTRODUCTION TO POETRY

I. Basic Course Information

A. Course Number and Title: ENGL 226 Introduction to Poetry

B. New or Modified Course: Modified

C. Date of Proposal: Semester: Fall Year: 2023

D. Effective Term: Fall 2024

E. Sponsoring Department: English

F. Semester Credit Hours**:** 3

G. Weekly Contact Hours**:** 3   Lecture**:** 3
                                        Laboratory**:** 0
                                        Out of class student work per week: 6

H. ☒ Prerequisite (s): ENGL 111 (English Composition 1)
    ☐ Corequisite (s):
    ☐ Prerequisite (s) and Corequisite (s):

I. Additional Fees**:** None

J. Name and E-Mail Address of Department Chair and Divisional Dean at time of approval**:** Ronald Tyson ronald.tyson@raritanval.edu; Patrice Marks patrice.marks@raritanval.edu

II. Catalog Description

Prerequisite: ENGL 111 English Composition I. This course will help students to understand both the craft and the art of poetry; how poems are made and why they are valuable. Texts will range from the lyrics of Sappho to the odes of Pablo Neruda to the newest work of contemporary U.S. poets. A central issue will be defining poetry and the myriad forms that poetry can take. The approach will be interdisciplinary, uniting historical and cultural perspectives to explore the relationship between experience and poetry, and between poetic theory and poetry. Students can expect, therefore, to gain not

only a knowledge of the nature, history, and variety of poetry but also greater skill, insight, and pleasure as readers, writers, and thinkers.

III. Statement of Course Need

    A. Introduction to Poetry provides students with an opportunity to study an important literary genre. It is a course typically featured in college English departments. Introduction to Poetry provides a foundation for students who choose to major in English or other areas of the Liberal Arts or Humanities.

    B. This course does not have a Lab component.

    C. This course generally transfers as a Humanities/English Literature general education course dependent on the transfer institution.

IV. Place of Course in College Curriculum

    A. Free Elective
    B. This course serves as a General Education course in Humanities/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

    A. Selected poems from ancient to modern times
    B. Poetry from around the world, though primarily American poetry from a diverse range of authors
    C. Skills for poetry analysis
    D. Optional opportunities to write original poems

VI.   A. <u>Course Learning Outcomes</u>:

    Upon the completion of the course, students will be able to:

        1. employ correct literary terminology in discussions and in written work. (GE 1, 6)
        2. interpret texts for discussion and written work, employing textual evidence. (GE 1, 6, *)
        3. identify and illustrate the richness and variety of poetry, both formally and creatively, in terms of the many diverse perspectives that writers from a variety of backgrounds have brought to the art (GE 1, 6, 8)

    (* Embedded critical thinking)

B. Assessment Instruments

1. out-of-class formal and informal writing
2. discussion questions and posts
3. optional creative writing
4. projects
5. exams

VII. Grade Determinants

A. Student's essays that communicate effectively in standard English with attention to grammar, mechanics, and the finer points of writing style
B. Discussion questions
C. Exams and quizzes
D. Research/Creative projects
E. Class participation and preparation
F. Regular written homework responses

This course may include the following modes of teaching:

A. lecture/discussion
B. small-group work
C. guest speakers
D. student oral presentations
E. simulation/role playing
F. student collaboration
G. independent study
H. regular writing activities

VIII. Texts and Materials

Suggested texts include:
A. Kim Addonizio and Dorianne Laux. *The Poet's Companion*. Norton, 1997
B. Ed. Rita Dove. *Penguin Anthology of 20th Century American Poetry*. Penguin, 2013
C. primary sources
D. course packet
E. student writing
F. film and video
G. audio sources
H. web sources
I. other computer-based sources

(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.)

IX. Resources

Students may need to use library databases and other library resources for critical research assignments.

X. Check One: ☐Honors Course ☐Honors Options ☒ N/A