

University of Arkansas – Fort Smith
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General Syllabus

ENGL 4913 Special Topics in Popular Culture

Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Laboratory Hours: 0

Prerequisite: ENGL 2113 Introduction to Literary and Cultural Studies

Prerequisite or corequisite: RHET 3203 Textual Research Methods

Effective Catalog: 2019-2020

I. Course Information

A. Catalog Description

Focuses on in-depth study of a specific moment, figure, figures, or genre within popular culture. May be repeated, when topics differ, for a total of nine hours.

B. Additional Information – None

II. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Subject Matter

Since this is a Special Topics offering, outcomes vary according to topic.

B. University Learning Outcomes (ULOs)

Analytical Skills

Critical Thinking Skills: Students will use critical thinking skills to identify problems/issues and develop solutions/analysis. Students will analyze a variety of texts for their rhetorical and/or literary features, as well as analyze the rhetorical situation to which the texts they produce respond.

Communication Skills (written and oral)

Students will communicate proficiently. Students will practice communication skills through discussions, presentations, and a variety of required written assignments.

Ethical Decision Making

Students will model ethical decision-making processes. Students will practice critical response to the writing of others, responsible use of research materials and intellectual property, and the ethical use of persuasion.

Global & Cultural Perspectives

Students will reflect upon cultural differences and their implications for interacting with people from cultures other than their own. Students will analyze the rhetorical situation, produce texts for a variety of audiences, and avoid the use of biased language.

III. Major Course Topics

Topics vary by semester.