Texas A&M University
Core Curriculum Cover Sheet
Initial Request for a Course to be Considered for the Fall 2015 Core Curriculum

1. This request is submitted by (department name): ENGLISH

2. Course prefix and number: ENGL 352

3. Texas Common Course Number: Click here to enter text.

4. Complete course title: Literature, World War II to Present

5. Semester credit hours: 3

6. This request is for consideration in the following Foundational Component Area:
   - Communication
   - Mathematics
   - Life and Physical Sciences
   - Language, Philosophy and Culture
   - Creative Arts
   - American History
   - Government/Political Science
   - Social and Behavioral Sciences

7. This course should also be considered for International and Cultural Diversity (ICD) designation:
   - Yes □ No □

8. How frequently will the class be offered? Every fall, spring, and often summer semester

9. Number of class sections per semester: One to Two

10. Number of students per semester: 35

11. Historic annual enrollment for the last three years: 99 □ 149 □ 130 □

   This completed form must be attached to a course syllabus that sufficiently and specifically details the appropriate core objectives through multiple lectures, outside activities, assignments, etc. Representative from department submitting request should be in attendance when considered by the Core Curriculum Council.

13. Submitted by:
   MARIAE IDIS
   Course Instructor
   Date 9/29/15

   Approvals:
   MAJIAE VES
   Department Head
   Date 9/29/15

14. College Dean/Designee
   Date 11/11/15

For additional information regarding core curriculum, visit the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board website at www.thecb.state.tx.us/corecurriculum2014

See form instructions for submission/approval process.
Foundational Component Area: Language, Philosophy, and Culture

How does the proposed course specifically address the Foundational Component Area definition above? ENGL352: Literature World War II to the Present: As a society, we develop collective versions of the past to cement our sense of culture and community. This course focuses on contemporary literature, works written in the twenty-first century. However the focus of each book is a historical event or process that had lasting national or international effects. Our primary concern in the course will be to understand how history becomes cultural memory, how events of the past shape present communal identity. We will also consider the possibility that literature can unsettle the communal assumptions formed by cultural memory and give us new ideas about our own heritage. Exploring this wider question of memory and history, we will read a variety of genres including the novel, drama, and poetry. Additional we will review performance, visual arts, photography, monuments, memorials, and museums.

Core Objectives
Critical Thinking Skills (CTS): The course will enhance critical thinking skills through consistent reading and class discussion and writing about literature, cultural memory, and history in contemporary transnational literature. The evaluation of critical thinking skills will be based primarily on written work including essay exams and weekly reading responses. These assignments will enhance student’s ability to synthesize historical material, evaluate and analyze literary and aesthetic representations, apply and test theories, and build original insights and arguments supported with specific evidence.

Communication Skills (CS): The course advances communication skills through targeted small group projects, oral presentations and class discussion. Writing skills are enhanced through frequent, guided analytic writing, which will be evaluated with rubric-driven assessment and commentary. Exams will prompt students to communicate key concepts effectively and retain and exercise new ideas by synthesizing aesthetic concepts and literary examples. Material for this course will include visual images and representations, such as photographs, and film that the students will ask to analyze and interpret.

Social Responsibility (SR): This course enhances social responsibility through contemporary literature that exposes controversies and crucial issues across international cultural memory of contested historical events. The evaluation of social responsibility will be based on frequent written reading responses, class discussion of literature’s engagement with the moral good, and essay exams that require engagement with social responsibility. Specifically the course addresses questions of social important including slavery, war, weapons development, espionage, medical care, terrorism.

Personal Responsibility (PR): Literature is an unusually effective form for promoting personal responsibility through the aesthetic machinery of identification, which enhances empathy and broadens the readers’ understanding through the varying prisms of character experience. The narrative process also raises issues of responsibility in relation to the framing and presentation of story or event. Additionally, assignments are designed to raise awareness of intellectual property and personal engagement with histories of responsibility.
Department of English

ENGL 352: Literature, World War II to Present

Request for International and Cultural Diversity (ICD) Designation

Diverse societies develop collective versions of the past to cement their sense of culture and community. The focus of this course will be on literary responses to historical events or processes that had lasting international effects on cultural identity. Some of the issues of international and cultural diversity this course considers include: the pre-U.S. history of the North American continent and the variety of international cultures that came together during the colonial period; the effect of European colonialism on first peoples; the early history of the international slave trade and its present implications for cultural diversity; the experience of war on the European continent during World War One; the invention of atomic weapons and their effects on first peoples within testing grounds; the close of the imperial age and European international rule; migration patterns between nations and the migrant experience; cold war alliances; the contemporary international experience of the war on terror and the responses of Arab peoples across the globe.