DEPARTMENT: ENGLISH

NAME OF COURSE: **WORLD HUMANITIES**

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

The World Humanities Seminar is the latest extension of the highly successful
interdisciplinary seminar program at Roslyn High School. Following in the footsteps of
the 12th grade Seminar in Issues and Literature ("PigLit") and the 11th grade American
Civilization course ("AmCiv"), the World Humanities class presents the traditional
materials of a sophomore English class in a challenging and stimulating setting. As with
its two sister courses, World Humanities breaks down the walls between English and
Social Studies using a theme-based Humanities approach. As the school year progresses,
the class evolves from a traditional class setting with teacher-centered presentations to a
seminar approach based on student-led discussions.

MAJOR TOPICS

The chronological study of World History will dictate the unit structure of the class.
Starting with a unit on the Enlightenment, the class will progress through the following
areas of study: the Age of Revolutions, the Napoleonic Era and Romanticism, the
Industrial Revolution, the Age of Imperialism, the World Wars, the Cold War and Post-
Colonialism. Each unit will feature one major full-length piece of literature. This will be
supplemented with short stories, poems and literary no-fiction, as well as explorations
into the music, art and philosophy of the various eras.

LITERATURE

Voltaire – *Candide*   Ibsen – *An Enemy of the People*
Sophocles – *Antigone*   Remarque – *All Quiet on the Western Front*
Dickens – *A Tale of Two Cities*   Golding – *Lord of the Flies*
Shelley – *Frankenstein*   Danticat – *The Dew Breaker*
Shakespeare – *The Tempest*   Short Story Unit
Hesse – *Siddhartha* (Outside Reading)   Salinger – *The Catcher in the Rye*

REQUIREMENTS

Unit exams, compositions, critical commentaries, reports, projects and individual or
group seminar presentations are employed as they coordinate with units of study.

GRADING PROCEDURE

Grades depend on unit exams and major projects, quizzes, homework and class
participation.