

DEPARTMENT: **ENGLISH**

NAME OF COURSE: **WORLD LITERATURE**

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

This course is designed to increase the student's ability to read a wide range of materials. The focus is on world literature; the aim is to acquaint students with traditions other than their own. The coming of age process in an adolescent's life is also explored. Emphasis is placed on the further development of writing, usage, and vocabulary skills, with special attention to exposition.

MAJOR TOPICS COVERED

Language

Grammatical and usage concepts are reviewed with special attention being given to the study of reference errors, dangling phrases and clauses, misplaced modifiers, parallel structure, the subjunctive, and verbals. Emphasis is also placed upon word study and the refinement of sentence structure.

Literature

Those texts selected for intensive study reflect issues which are part of the student's immediate world -- confusion of adolescent rebellion, erosion of tradition resulting from rapidly changing values and an uncertain future -- and introduce students to cultures other than their own. Units may be arranged by literary types or according to theme. Single works also may be studied for their own importance. Students are challenged to confront ethical and moral issues in literature and to consider reasonable ways of resolving them.

Composition

Expository essays, which develop a thesis through several successive paragraphs to a conclusion, build upon the simpler freshman model of introduction, body, and conclusion. Literature often offers the subject matter for such formal writing. Other kinds of writing may include the personal journal and creative pieces. Common errors provide for the study of grammar, usage, and mechanics as needed. Vocabulary study in context, the power of connotation, and sentence variety are emphasized. A process writing approach allows for revision. Opportunity is also provided for interdisciplinary and authentic assessment projects.

LITERATURE*

The Catcher in the Rye

Oedipus Rex

The House on Mango Street

Lord of the Flies

Julius Caesar or Othello

The View from the Bridge

Plainsong

The Dew Breaker

The Snows of Kilimanjaro

Zebra (a collection of short stories)

Poetry from different cultures

REQUIREMENTS

Compositions, quizzes, projects and individual or group oral presentations as they coordinate with the units studied.
Frequent formal writing including revision.
Independent reading
Department final examination

GRADING PROCEDURES

Grades depend on major papers, quizzes, projects, oral reports, class participation, and homework. The department final examination counts as one-fifth of the final average.