

Introduction to Literature A/B (9) (P)

Description of Target Group

This yearlong course, required to meet the district's graduation requirement, is designed for all students.

Purpose

This course is designed to provide students of all ability levels with an introduction to literature and the writing process through an integrated approach. This course will prepare students for English 2, World Literature, as they read and write accessing themes which include self-exploration, prejudice, tolerance and personal and human values. Students will develop communication skills in reading, writing, listening and speaking in which group and individual projects will be assigned. In addition, students will participate in beginning career exploration to provide a greater awareness of the need for proficiency in communication skills.

Standards of Expected Student Achievement

Upon completion of this course, students will demonstrate the following skills:

READING

A variety of genres from literature will be read. Students will be expected to:

- read independently
- identify literary genre
- identify elements of literature, literary terms
- construct meaning from a text
- make connections within a text
- extend beyond the text
- include an element of risk taking in constructing meaning
- keep a journal or log

Core selections include:

novel: Of Mice and Men - John Steinbeck

drama: Romeo and Juliet - Shakespeare

Other possible selections include:

novel: Bless the Beasts and Children - Glendon Swarthout

Captain's Courageous - Rudyard Kipling

Dandelion Wine - Ray Bradbury

Night - Elie Wiesel

When the Legends Die - Hal Borland

drama: The Miracle Worker - William Gibson

The Mother - Paddy Chayefsky

Visitors from Forest Hill - Neil Simon

epic poetry: The Odyssey - Homer

short story, poetry, essays: selections from the basic and supplementary texts

WRITING

Students will be expected to demonstrate the following skills.

Rhetoric:

- present an idea; acknowledge an audience/reader
- use logic and relevant support/details
- state and develop an argument
- demonstrate coherence and style
- attempt an element of risk
- demonstrate improvement

Conventions:

- practice sentence variety
- use proper word choice/usage
- demonstrate good mechanics
- improve spelling
- demonstrate improvement

Students will demonstrate the ability to write in the following types of discourse:

- autobiographical
- reflective
- descriptive
- narrative

RETRIEVING INFORMATION

Students will demonstrate the ability to:

- use the library and computer catalog
- use the computer lab
- take notes
- document references

GROUP/COMMUNICATION SKILLS

Students will demonstrate the ability to:

- Participate effectively in class and small group discussions
- communicate information and ideas effectively to others
- respect others
- follow directions
- compromise and reach consensus
- be responsible
- show improvement in speaking and listening skills

CAREER INFORMATION

Students will demonstrate the ability to:

- take the UNIACT or other interest inventory
- apply the results of the UNIACT or other interest inventory by
- preparing to choose a Career Path
- identify career choices which coordinate with interests
- research a career or write an "I" search paper
- complete the written application process

PORTFOLIO REQUIREMENTS

Students will be expected to complete the Portfolio Requirements as outlined on PAGE 4 of this course outline.

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

Text and Supplementary Materials

Refer to: Secondary Adopted Texts and Approved Supplementary Books used in the Santa Maria Joint Union High School District.

PORTFOLIO REQUIREMENTS

Student Name: _____

1.) Demonstrate reading comprehension/questioning competency in the following areas:

Any three (3):

| | Date | Signature |
|--|-------------|------------------|
| A.) Read independently | _____ | _____ |
| B.) Construct meaning from a text | _____ | _____ |
| C.) Make connections within a text | _____ | _____ |
| D.) Extend beyond a text | _____ | _____ |
| E.) Take a risk in making connections/meaning | _____ | _____ |
| F.) Analyze literature symbolically & thematically | _____ | _____ |

Any one (1)

| | | |
|--------------------------|-------|-------|
| G.) Reading log | _____ | _____ |
| H.) Double entry journal | _____ | _____ |

2.) Demonstrate writing skills in the following areas:

Any three (3):

| | | |
|----------------------------|-------|-------|
| A.) Autobiographical essay | _____ | _____ |
| B.) Reflective essay | _____ | _____ |
| C.) Narrative essay | _____ | _____ |
| D.) Descriptive essay | _____ | _____ |
| E.) Expository essay | _____ | _____ |

3.) Demonstrate the following information retrieval skills:

| | | |
|--|-------|-------|
| A.) Works Cited/Bibliography using MLA | _____ | _____ |
| B.) Documentation using MLA format | _____ | _____ |
| C.) Note taking | _____ | _____ |

4.) Demonstrate the following oral presentation skills:

| | | |
|---|-------|-------|
| A.) Effectively present an idea/project | _____ | _____ |
| B.) Show improvement in speaking skills | _____ | _____ |

5.) Demonstrate the following career skills:

| | | |
|---|-------|-------|
| A.) Identify areas of career interests | _____ | _____ |
| B.) Match interests to specific careers | _____ | _____ |