

9th Grade English: World Literature
Spring Course Syllabus: 2018

Instructor: Ryan O'Leary
e-mail: ro'leary@compasscharter.org
Block 2A 9:27-10:58
Block 3A 11:00-12:27

Purpose: Through the study of literature, this course will help you develop the ability to closely read texts, develop questions about readings, hold discussions on readings, and write with purpose. Students will explore the themes within various works, both classical and contemporary literature, in order to formulate their own argumentative, informative, and narrative essays.

Schoology: Given the opportunities technology allows in our society, I will be using Schoology in an effort to streamline this course. I will post all information onto Schoology and assignments will be turned in through the site as well. Please let me know if you need any help using Schoology.

Texts:

- *(Mini Units)*
- *Tale of two Cities*
- *The Pearl*
- *Hamlet or Romeo and Juliet* (Class Vote)

Reporting Standards:

READING

1. CCRA.R.1 Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.
2. CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.R.2 Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.

WRITING

3. CCRA.W.1 Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.
4. CCRA.W.2 Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.
5. CCRA.W.3 Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details and well-structured event sequences.

SPEAKING & LISTENING

6. CCRA.SL.1 Prepare for and participate effectively in a range of conversations and collaborations with diverse partners, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.

7. CCRA.SL.4 Present information, findings, and supporting evidence such that listeners can follow the line of reasoning and the organization, development, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

LANGUAGE

8. CCRA.L.1 Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.

9. CCRA.L.4 Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases by using context clues, analyzing meaningful word parts, and consulting general and specialized reference materials, as appropriate.

World Literature Course Requirements:

Formative Assessments:

- Daily work, quizzes, in-class writing, daily journals, and rough drafts of essays
- Quarter Exam
- Scheduled conferences

Formative Codes:

- EXE – student performance on the learning task exceeds expectations
- MET – student performance on the learning task met expectations
- DNM – student performance on the learning task did not meet expectations
- NC – student has not completed the learning task

Summative Assessments:

- Formal writing (final drafts of essays, short stories, poems, etc.)
- World Lit. Projects
- Semester Exam

Summative Scores (1-4)

Standards Referenced Grading Scale:

- **4** = Demonstrates thorough understanding of grade level standards and consistently and independently applies knowledge and skills in a variety of contexts.
- **3** = Demonstrates understanding of grade level standards and applies knowledge and skills in presented contexts.
- **2** = Demonstrates understanding and application of most grade level standards; needs teacher support to demonstrate proficiency.
- **1** = Demonstrates limited understanding and application of grade level standards; needs more instruction and/or practice to demonstrate proficiency.
- **0** = Rarely demonstrates understanding and ineffectively applies grade level standards.

Late Work: Assignments will always be due at the beginning of class on the due date. In order to avoid stress, always plan for the worst. Prepare for your computers to die, printers to run out of ink, and papers to get eaten by dogs. Ensure that your papers are punctual by planning ahead.

Academic Integrity policy

You are expected to take credit only for original work that you produce. Plagiarism consists of submitting another writer's work or ideas as your own, or failing properly to credit another writer's words or ideas. It will earn you an automatic **F** for the work, your parents will be notified, and you will be reported to the administration. In order to protect yourself, always document your sources in notes and/or bibliography. Use the Modern Language Association (MLA) guidelines for all citations.

Plagiarism includes passing off someone else's work as your own, copying from your peers, collaborating on individual assignments with peers, and using sources without proper citation.

Behavior Expectations: The values I strive to promote in my classroom are respect and integrity. Learning community lacks the ability to respect themselves, each other, and the educator than the learning process will become hindered. Every member of my classroom will respect their fellow members and also be respected as well. The members of my classroom must also maintain their integrity in order to be successful. Integrity is a combination of honesty and moral principles. If everyone holds themselves accountable for their education then all work will be a direct reflection of your own skill.

Attendance: If you miss a class, you are responsible for knowing before the next class what you missed and what work is due the day you return. Please ask another student what you have missed and not your instructor (especially during class). Remember, you are responsible for making up all the work you have missed. This work will only be accepted (if your absence was excused) on your first class back.

If you miss class or know that you are missing class the day an assignment is due, it is your responsibility to:

- Have someone bring the assignment to class for you;
- Get any and all homework from another student;
- Get lecture notes from a classmate.

Readings: For many readings, I will give some time in class to read, However, since classic literature takes more time to read and analyze you must also plan on reading many of these texts outside of class. Since this is an English course, I will require assigned readings to be completed before the class starts so that everyone is prepared for assignments, discussion, and quizzes. In order to ensure every student is completing the assignments I will reserve my right to give quizzes based on assigned readings.