ENGLISH COURSE OUTLINE

ENGLISH 4/ENGLISH 4 HONORS

CREDIT HOURS: 1.0                  COURSE LENGTH: 2 Semesters

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop knowledge of British literature through integrated educational experiences in the language arts strands with a focus on literary analysis, criticism, research and multiple perspectives. Emphasis will be on representative works of Great Britain highlighting the major genres, themes, subjects, and historical influences associated with the literary periods. Students will learn various critical perspectives and apply this knowledge by evaluating literary works through these contexts.

The honors level course requires students to utilize higher order thinking skills such as analysis and synthesis, while completing more rigorous assignments. In addition, more emphasis is placed on research mastery and project based learning.

COURSE PREREQUISITES

English 3

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK (S) and/or MATERIALS

Title: The Princeton Review: Reading and Writing Workout for the SAT
Edition: 2nd
Author: Geoff Martz, Doug Pierce
Publisher: Princeton Review

Title: Anthology: Literature: The Human Experience, Reading and Writing
Edition: 11th
Author: Richard Abcarian, Marvin Klotz, Samuel Cohen
Publisher: Bedford/St. Martin's

Title: The Heart of Darkness
Author: Joseph Conrad
UNIT OUTLINE

Unit I: Innocence vs. Experience/ Heart of Darkness

In this unit students will begin their study of the novel Heart of Darkness. The themes focused on in this unit are innocence vs. experience. Students will define and evaluate the development of this theme through various literary works and historical events.

Unit II: Colonialism/Heart of Darkness

In this unit students will continue their study of the novel Heart of Darkness. The themes focused on in this unit are a character’s individual journey from innocence to experience and the role colonialism plays in this theme. Students will consider an author’s stylistic choices as relates to developing theme.

Unit III: Characterization and Love/Othello

In this unit students will begin their study of the Shakespearean play Othello. Students will develop reading strategies to engage with Shakespeare’s language. They will be introduced to themes of love and jealousy through relevant literary works. In this unit students will learn the differences between Elizabethan and contemporary drama.

Unit IV: Drama and Tragedy/Othello

In this unit students will begin their study of the Shakespearean play Othello.

Unit V: Conformity vs. Rebellion/1984

In this unit students will begin their study of 1984. Students will define conformity and rebellion and apply those definitions to society, man, selected poetry and the novel. Students will gain valuable background knowledge about George Orwell’s life, politics, and his ideas on utopian and dystopian societies.
Unit VI: Imagery and Betrayal/1984

In this unit students will continue their study of 1984 with an examination of betrayal as a major theme. They will evaluate literary devices in the novel that contribute to establishing mood that convey this theme. Students will compare and contrast characters’ ideas and attitudes towards rebellion.

Unit VII: Romanticism/Frankenstein

In this unit students will begin their study of the novel Frankenstein. Students will address and argue the ethics of cloning and the conflicts between science and creation – which are at the core of the novel’s theme. Students will learn elements of Romantic movement in literature, a movement that Mary Shelly was genetically and artistically imbibed. Students will write interpretive evaluations of symbols and images across various texts in addition to Frankenstein.

Unit VIII: Theme and Characterization/Frankenstein

In this unit students will continue their study of the novel Frankenstein. The focus of this unit is on characterization and developing themes of Romanticism and creation and science prevalent in the novel. Students will evaluate the roles gender plays in developing themes in literature.