

Course Description:

In this course, you will expand your understanding of culture and literature by reading a wide variety of literary texts from around the world. Each unit focuses on literature from a specific region of the world. You will move from early texts to more contemporary stories as you progress through the lessons.

Your journey begins in Africa, home of some of the earliest literary works. Ancient Greece is your next stop. Here, you will learn about the elements of Greek tragedy. Next is Central Asia; many familiar biblical and scriptural texts originated there. You will read some of these early texts, as well as more modern texts that represent the range of cultures in this region. Analysis of ancient East Asian literature will provide you with insights into that region's spiritual beliefs and customs. Later, you will examine these ideas again in more modern texts. The Europe unit presents works from France, Italy, Spain, Russia, and England. These works highlight techniques such as parody and humor, as well as cultural elements. Literature from the Americas rounds out the course.

As you read the selections, you will analyze literary elements, author's craft, and structure. You will integrate ideas from different texts, and you will compare and contrast authors' treatment of universal themes and characters.

The writing project for the course is a personal narrative essay.

This course will enhance your understanding of literature and writing, and help you appreciate both unique cultural elements and universal ideas.

Projects

- folktale with an effective plot
- effective analysis paragraph to analyze a story's theme.
- character analysis paragraph based on the play *Antigone*.
- personal narrative essay based on a passage from *The Dhammapada*

Course Objectives:

- Identify, interpret, and analyze themes and supporting details in literary texts.
- Determine the meaning and effect of figurative and connotative words in literary text.
- Analyze use of narrative and structural techniques in literary text.
- Analyze an author's perspective, including cultural effects, in literary text.
- Analyze how an author draws on and transforms source material, including comparing representations in different artistic mediums.
- Compose narratives that develop real or imagined experiences and ideas using appropriate details, event sequences, development, and style.
- Correctly use the conventions of English grammar, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling in different contexts to make effective choices for meaning or style.
- Determine the meanings of academic and domain-specific words and phrases.
- Participate in collaborative discussions and presentations while effectively integrating and presenting information from multiple sources.

Required Materials:

In Course

Course Overview:

The course is made up of six units. Each unit has five lessons. Lessons present the material in many different ways so students can increase their comprehension. These ways include Unit Vocabulary, Language and Reading Skills, Writing Projects, Workbook and Checkpoint assessments, and Discussion Boards. Some activities are graded by the learning management software; others are graded by the instructor. Additional activities are not graded.