

### Course Description:

In this course, you will focus on learning reading skills based on literary texts. The texts come from various genres. They include a novel and excerpts from novels, short stories, poems, and plays. The course's reading selections demonstrate ways to understand explicit and implicit information, theme, characters, plot, poetic and dramatic techniques, and figurative language, among other ideas and concepts. You will read the entire novel *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* throughout the course. You will also read stories and plays about challenging situations, discovering alternate realities and robot rebellions. You will witness powerful historical events and people, and you'll compare how written texts are portrayed in film or audio. Additionally, you will read poems from famous poets, such as Emily Dickinson, Robert Frost, and William Wordsworth, to name a few.

As you read the novels, short stories, poems, and plays in this course, you will identify central ideas and themes; make inferences; analyze word choice; identify figurative, connotative, and sensory language; and compare and contrast different text mediums—drama to audio, novel to video.

In addition, you will learn about basics in grammar, usage, and punctuation, including correct spelling, misplaced and dangling modifiers, verb tenses and participles, and parallel structure and antecedents. You will also learn new vocabulary words in each of the first five units of the course.

In addition, you will learn the elements of narrative writing so that you can plan, create, write, revise, and edit your own personal narrative. You will also learn about different forms of poetry and their characteristics. You will learn about different poetic techniques to apply these skills and write a poem of your own in the assigned poetic form and structure.

Through the lessons provided in this course, you will master techniques that will help you achieve a deeper appreciation of literary texts as well as of narrative and poetry writing.

**Suggested Prerequisite:** English 7 Honors (1 of 2)

### Course Objectives:

- Analyze the interactions of the main elements of a particular story or drama, citing evidence to support analysis.
- Identify and interpret the literal, figurative, and connotative meaning of words and phrases in literary texts.
- Identify, analyze, and objectively summarize themes and central ideas in literary texts.
- Analyze how the form or structure in a drama or a poem contributes to its meaning.
- Analyze how an author develops and differentiates between the points of view of characters or narrators in a text, using evidence from the text.
- Use root words, affixes, and reference materials to find the meaning of unfamiliar words.
- Identify words that are spelled incorrectly in the context of text or writing.
- Compare and contrast techniques and portrayals of a written story, drama, or poem to another version or historical account.
- Use precise language and a variety of complete sentences (e.g., simple, compound, complex) correctly in writing.

- Complete writing activities and projects in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
- Write a narrative and poetry using knowledge of writing ideas, concepts, and strategies.
- Prepare for and participate in discussion, following discussion rules and supporting your ideas with evidence.

### Required Materials:

- word-processing software
- internet browser

\*Additional materials listed in the course.

### Course Overview:

Each unit begins with an introduction, which includes a brief description of the content and intended learning outcomes. Following the introduction are these standard activities, which may or may not be present in each lesson:

Vocabulary Words – Includes parts of speech, definitions, synonyms, related words, and etymology; contains workbook questions; is a part of the Language Skill.

Language Skill Instruction – Includes instruction in vocabulary and language skills; contains workbook questions; is a part of the Language Skill.

Reading Selections – Includes annotated reading selections, videos and audio files; is part of the Reading Skill. Reading Skill Instruction – Includes instruction in reading skills; contains workbook questions; is part of the Reading Skill.

Writing Skill Instruction and Activity – Includes instruction in writing skills; contains workbook questions; contains activities including writing projects, which are assessments graded by the instructor and which require you to apply your knowledge and writing capabilities to demonstrate mastery of the lesson content; includes a personal narrative, completed in Units 2 and 3; and writing a poem, completed in Units 4 and 5.

Checkpoint – Uses 15 questions to assess mastery of lesson objectives; is a graded activity; may be taken up to three times.

Discussion Board – Is an academic discussion board; gives chances to share personal thoughts and ideas about the topics and ideas covered in each lesson.

Exam Prep – Presents a summary and review of the skills covered in the unit.

In the last lesson of each unit, the Checkpoint activity is replaced with a comprehensive assessment:

Unit Exams – At the end of the unit is an exam that will assess mastery of unit objectives. You may take the Unit Exam only once.

End-of-Course Writing Assessment – This exam is in the next-to-last lesson and tests how well you have learned the writing skills presented in the course. You may take the End-of-Course Writing Assessment only once.

Final Exam – This exam is in the last lesson and consists of 50 questions that test you on the concepts and information learned in the course. You may take the Final Exam only once.