

Course Title

SMHS

Introduction To Literature A/B (9) (Honors)

Description of Target Group

This yearlong course, required to meet the district's graduation requirement, is designed for only those freshman students whose recommendations and portfolios have been accepted by the English Department Honors Committee.

Purpose

This course is designed to provide selected students with a qualitatively different and varied curriculum, which challenges and enriches their individual potential while maintaining the requirements of the basic course outline. Students will focus upon an introduction to literature and the writing process through an integrated approach. This course will prepare students for World Literature (Honors) 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.

Students must maintain a grade of HB" or better at the end of each semester to remain in the honors program.

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
- analyze literature on both symbolic and thematic levels

Core selections include:

- novel: Of Mice and Men - John Steinbeck
drama: Romeo and Juliet - Shakespeare

Other possible selections include:

- novel: Captain's Courageous - Rudyard Kipling
Night - Elie Wiesel
A Tale of Two Cities - Charles Dickens
drama: 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 and vocabulary development
- demonstrate good mechanics
- improve spelling
- demonstrate improvement and growth

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

- autobiographical
- reflective
- descriptive
- narrative
- expository discourses

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RETRIEVING INFORMATION

- use the library and computer catalog
- use reference volumes appropriately
- cite works using MLA documentation
- document within a text using MLA format
- take notes

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/GROUP EDUCATION

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.

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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	_____	_____