

Proposed John Adams Syllabus - 2010-11 Burgess

First Semester/Classics

Readings: Beowulf, Chaucer Prologue + excerpts, Shakespearean sonnets, Hamlet, The Tempest, Dante's Inferno, Ovid's Metamorphosis excerpts

Things Fall Apart, Heart of Darkness, Poisonwood Bible, Caucasasia, Native Son, Kite Runner, Autograph Man

Writings: A) Colonialism: Tragic Heroes in Kurtz, Okonkwo
B) Post-Colonial: People and Cultures out of Sync
C) Modern/Contemporary Look at Race and Gender
D) Creative Writing: Writing a Short Story
E) Reviewing and Writing College Level MLA Paper

Projects: A) Confessions: Present the private thoughts of a character from Things Fall Apart or Heart of Darkness
B) Present a character from Prologue
C) Reenact a speech from Shakespeare play
D) Write and present a sonnet

Movies: Beowulf, Hamlet, Shakespeare in Love, Dante's Inferno (animation), Native Son, Apocalypse Now, Kite Runner, Twelfth Night, Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead

Second Semester/Postmodern or Die Trying

Slaughterhouse-5, Catch 22, At Swim-Two Birds, American Psycho, Rant, Survivor, or Fight Club, Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas, Mumbo Jumbo, Modern Poetry, Contemporary Poets, 20th Century Black Poets, Def Poetry and Hip hop voices

Writings: A) Research concepts in Modern Criticism(MLA)
B) Poem Analysis
C) Novel or Author Comparison (technique, theme, structure...)
D) Film Criticism: How to analyze, review and rate films

Projects: A) Produce a Power Point presentation on favorite author/poet
B) Interview family members and produce a family tree
C) Create Social Network page demonstrating KAP readings/Writings
D) Take a classic story or play scene and update/postmodernize it