

This course is designed to develop and enhance the skills of effective communication and to develop a clearer understanding of what it means to look closely at a literary text.

We will draw from a wide chronological range and from major literary genres. Identity, growth and life's pilgrimage are some of the many themes we will explore. Emphasis will be on the literary works' timeless applicability to life. Class sessions are based on discussion of the literature. Students are expected to recognize literary devices and style and assimilate these in their prose.

Students will write essays and develop portfolios of their work. Revision will be emphasized. See attached assignments. For the literary analysis, course emphasis is placed on the student's own interpretation of the classic. However, one paper must include documentation of critical essays supporting the paper's thesis. Throughout the year, this class will improve vocabulary with Saldier -Oxford Vocabulary for college and the Joy of Vocabulary, as excellent examination of word origin. In addition, a grammar review tied closely to writing assignments will be completed using the Sadlier-Oxford Grammar series.

Text will include Beowulf, an epic; novels Wuthering Heights, Jane Eyre,

Watership Down, All the King's Men; Shakespearean tragedies Hamlet, Macbeth, Taming of the Shrew; Shakespearean sonnets; Canterbury Tales Prologue and 2 or more tales; literature of the Arthurian legend with excerpts from Mallory and White and Tennyson; and miscellaneous material from SF and HB English literate anthologies. Each literary work or unit will be followed by an essay examination in the blue book format. The student's assessment will be based on the clear development of the response, the ability to draw from the literary work with specific and relevant support, the citation of pertinent events in the author's life and the age, and recognition of the universality of the work. Finally, each student is responsible for an in-depth report on one English poet. This includes a written report on the poet's life, poetry and an oral presentation