

ENGLISH 2, LEVEL 3 (W210233)

This course focuses on characteristics of the literary genres by American, British, and world authors, developing reading strategies suitable to each type on the literal, interpretive and evaluative levels. Themes include the individual's search for self-definition and the contending forces within human nature. Expository writing and literary analysis are stressed by placing emphasis on the construction of a clear yet more nuanced thesis and a detailed, logical argument that supports an arguable point. Personal narrative and self-reflective writing are also included. The study of grammar and usage is in the context of accurate, precise, and convincing expression.

SUMMER READING: When the Emperor Was Divine, Otsuka

I. FIRST SEMESTER

Independent Reading: Select from Non-fiction texts below.

A. Short Story Core texts: [See Appendix B]

B. Fiction Core text: Select one:

House on Mango Street, Cisneros

Klara and the Sun, Ishiguro

Lord of the Flies, Golding (Perigee/Penguin)

The Catcher in the Rye, Salinger, (Bantam)

C. Contemporary Voices Poetry

This unit, located on the [English Department shared Google Drive](#), offers poems by contemporary poets in order to build student confidence as close readers of language, situation, and context, while also pushing the boundaries of interpretation and critical thought. In addition, the unit allows readers to explore the marginalized or “other”, what Elie Wiesel refers to as viewing someone as an “abstraction.” See Appendix A.

D. Research Paper (core): Essays from Appendix C as needed

Topics for the paper can be connected to the fiction selections from items B or C above.

E. Film Options (*one per year with suggested text pairings for work in visual literacy*):

II. SECOND SEMESTER

A. Novels (core) - Select one Victorian novel:

- a. A Tale of Two Cities, Dickens (Penguin)
- b. Frankenstein, Shelley
- c. Hard Times, Dickens
- d. Jane Eyre, Bronte (Penguin)

B. Shakespeare (core text) Macbeth (Folger)

C. Independent Reading - Novels or Short Stories

The use of contemporary works of fiction at the end of 2nd semester will provide a grounding in common vocabulary that will be used to help anchor conversations in the Victorian novel and Macbeth.

In addition, it offers the chance to explore other reading skills like tone, author's purpose, and interwoven narratives with texts that are highly relatable and accessible.

For more information, see the text adoption documents and course materials on the shared English drive, linked in the heading below.

Texts to choose from include:

Novels

Darius the Great Is Not Okay, Khorram

The Summer of Bitter and Sweet, Ferguson

Two Boys Kissing, Levithan

When the Moon was Ours, McLemore

Rust in the Root, Ireland

The Picture of Dorian Gray, Wilde

Last Night at the Telegraph Club, Lo

This Is How You Lose the Time War, El-Mohtar and Gladstone

Short Stories

"Slipping Away", Jacqueline Woodson

"We Might as Well All Be Strangers", M.E. Karr

"Victory Lap", Julian Winters

"Holding", Lois Lowry

"Blood Sister", Jane Yolen

D. Film Options (one per year with suggested text pairings for work in visual literacy):

- Macbeth
- A.I. Artificial Intelligence

SELECTIONS:

A. Poetry:

Title	Author	Note
"The Place where we are Right"	Amichai, Yehuda	Purpose & Power
"The Unknown Citizen"	Auden	
"A Bed for the Night"	Brecht	
"Five Ways to Kill a Man"	Brock	
"Beverly Hills, Chicago"	Brooks, Gwendolyn	Class
"hunchback girl: she thinks of heaven"	Brooks, Gwendolyn	Health & Disability
"Lovers of the Poor"	Brooks, Gwendolyn	
"Another Mystery"	Carver	
"Barbie Chang got her Hair Done"	Chang, Victoria	Race & Ethnicity
"Summer"	Chen, Chen	LGBTQIA
"In the Middle of the Road"	de Andrade	
"Rosa"	Dove	
"Design"	Frost	
"Out, Out - "	Frost	
"The Silken Tent"	Frost	
"A Small Needful Fact"	Gay, Ross	Race & Ethnicity
"Choices"	Giovanni	
"Digging"	Heaney	
"Poem Meant to be Read from Right to Left"	Helal, Marwa	Race & Ethnicity
"OCD: A Love Poem"	Hilborn, Neil	Health & Disability
"Hades"	Koertge, Ron	Purpose & Power
"Maximus"	Lawrence	
"A Litany for Survival"	Lorde, Audre	LGBTQIA
"Housecooling"	Matthews	
"School Days"	Matthews	
"In Flanders Fields"	McCrae	
"Attention Queer Writers"	Melt, H.	Purpose & Power
"Sonnet 7: How Soon Hath Time"	Milton, John	Youth
"Dulce et Decorum Est"	Owen	
"Mirror"	Plath	
"House Hunters"	Prufer, Kevin	Class
"Loneliness"	Sappho	LGBTQIA
"Sonnet 106"	Shakespeare	Purpose & Power
Sonnet 116	Shakespeare	
Sonnet 130	Shakespeare	
Sonnet 29	Shakespeare	
Sonnet 55	Shakespeare	
"Auto Wreck"	Shapiro	
"No Explosions"	Shihab Nye, Naomi	Race & Ethnicity

Title	Author	Note
"How I Am"	Shinder, Jason	Health & Disability
"Hamlen Brook"	Wilbur	
"The Wild Swans at Coole"	Yeats	

B. Short Stories:

Title	Author	Note
"By the Waters of Babylon"	Benet	
"Lies"	Canin	
"The Little Knife"	Chabon	
"Indian Camp"	Hemingway	
"A Painful Case"	Joyce	
"The Silence"	Murakami	
"American History"	Ortez-Cofer	
"Snowman"	Perrotta	
"Perfect Day for Banana Fish"	Salinger	
"Laughing Man"	Salinger	
"Slight Rebellion off Madison"	Salinger	
"80 Yard Run"	Shaw	
"Teenage Wasteland"	Tyler	
"A and P"	Updike	
"The Flowers"	Walker	
"The Wilshire Bus"	Yamamoto	

C. Essays:

Title	Author	Note
"Superman and Me"	Alexie	
"On Compassion"	Ascher	
"The Chase"	Dillard	
"Dealing with the Dead"	Egan	
"Salvation"	Hughes	

Today's Kids are Like, Killing the English Language, Yeah Right	Johnson
"Shooting an Elephant"	Orwell
"How to Poison the Earth"	Saukko
"Just Walk on By"	Staples

D. Film Clips:

Title	Director	Year	Studio	Rating
Jane Eyre	Fukunaga	2011	BBC Video	PG-13
Klara and the Sun	Waititi	2026	Sony Pictures	Not Rated

