
PETERS TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL

COURSE SYLLABUS: HONORS ENGLISH 9

Course Overview and Essential Skills

Throughout the course students will be expected to interpret, analyze and apply the assigned literature selections to a variety of analytical papers and projects which will demonstrate understanding of the texts. Students will be responsible for conducting research to accompany and support interpretations. We will also review the basics of grammar as tailored to the needs of individual classes and effectively implement those basics into our writings.

A major component of Honors English 9 is the exploration of literary genre, with an emphasis on short story, novel and drama. We will explore and enjoy literature by delving into subtleties of figurative language, form and mood to better appreciate theme.

Course Textbook and Required Materials

- Title: *The Elements of Literature* (Third Course, 2003) ISBN# 0-03-067281-3
- Other: *Animal Farm*, *Ethan Frome*, *All Quiet on the Western Front* with poetry selections, *A Raisin in the Sun*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, "The Lady or the Tiger," *The Old Man and the Sea*, *The Pearl*
- Students should come to class with a textbook and pencil. In addition, each student will need a three-ring notebook or large spiral notebook with folders for organizing hand-outs, notes, vocabulary and assignments. A small spiral notebook, journal or traditional composition notebook is needed for journaling.

Course Outline of Material Covered:

Unit or Topic	Concepts/Skills/Resources	Timeframe
Short Stories from <i>The Elements of Literature</i> (Third Course, 2003); "The Lady or the Tiger?"	Identifying and analyzing literary terms, plot structure, narrative/expository/comparison-contrast writing prompts, vocabulary, quizzes, test Films: <i>The Birds</i> , Scene from <i>Jurassic Park</i>	7 weeks
Animal Farm	Historical context of the Russian Revolution, types of propaganda, allegory, satire, library research, persuasive writing, vocabulary, quizzes, test Film: <i>Animal Farm</i>	3 weeks
All Quiet on the Western Front Selected WWI Poetry: "Trench Hands" by Christina Sharik; "The Man He Killed" by Thomas Hardy; "Dulce et Decorum Est", "Anthem for Doomed Youth", "Disabled", all by Wilfred Owen; "Does it Matter?" by Siegfried Sassoon; and "Ten Days Leave" by W.D. Snodgrass	Historical context of WWI, discussion/writing prompts, research, vocabulary, quizzes, test Film: <i>All Quiet on the Western Front</i>	5 weeks

To Kill a Mockingbird	Historical context of the Great Depression, library research, supplemental poetry analysis, vocabulary/vocabulary writing, group presentations, narrative writing, reading quizzes/test Film: <i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i>	7 weeks
Ethan Frome	Victorian society, frame tale, long and short flashback, motifs, characterization, writing prompts, partner assignments, reading quizzes/test Film: <i>Ethan Frome</i>	4 weeks
A Raisin in the Sun	Historical context of the Civil Rights Movement, elements of drama, allusion, symbolism, vocabulary/spelling, first person narrative essay, test	5 weeks
The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet	Characteristics of Shakespearean tragedy, iambic pentameter, blank verse, sonnet, motif, quizzes, paraphrasing, in-class motif essay, test Film: <i>Romeo and Juliet</i>	5 weeks
The Old Man and the Sea, The Pearl	Summer Reading Project Independent reading, reading guides, group project, test	Determined by student over course of summer

****Depending on the needs of the class or changes in the school year, the course outline sequence is subject to change.***