

# PETERS TOWNSHIP MIDDLE SCHOOL

## COURSE SYLLABUS: LITERATURE STUDIES

Course Information	Teacher Information
<u>Course Length</u> : 60 days	<u>Mr. Appel</u>

### **Course Overview and Essential Skills**

The purpose of this course is to provide opportunities for students to read and react to three different novels. The focus of this class is to develop students' higher level thinking skills via class discussions and applied critical thinking. Creativity in both oral and written expression will be encouraged through a variety of activities and assessments. This is a required course for qualified students who meet criteria; it meets every day for twelve weeks.

Essential Skills include using graphic organizers for writing prompts, modeling and facilitating appropriate note-taking techniques, demonstrating different study approaches to test preparation, demonstrating different study approaches to retaining vocabulary.

### **Course Textbook, Supplemental Resources and Required Materials**

Novels:

- *Good Night, Mr. Tom* by Michelle Magorian ISBN: 978-0064401746
- *Tuesdays with Morrie* by Mitch Albom ISBN: 978-0767905923
- *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson ISBN: 978-0486266886

Movies:

- *Good Night, Mr. Tom* PBS Masterpiece TV movie (1998)
- *Tuesdays with Morrie* (1999)
- *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* TV episode (1951)

### **Course Outline of Material Covered:**

Unit or Topic	Course Activities/Resources	Timeframe
Unit of study or major topic as outlined in curriculum	Projects, papers, quizzes, labs, homework, class work, movies used, etc	May indicate the month or amount of time for unit
<u><i>Good Night, Mr. Tom</i></u>	<p>In this Unit, the students will be reading the novel <i>Good Night, Mr. Tom</i>. Time will be spent researching the setting and background of the novel, discussing the characters, main ideas, and themes of the novel in small and large group discussions, introducing relevant vocabulary, and analyzing and discussing the growth of the two main characters and the events and choices that made them who they were and who they become.</p> <p>Assessments will include various comprehension quizzes, several vocabulary quizzes, and a final test. Students will also view scenes from the movie and will compare and contrast those with the novel.</p>	4 weeks

<p><u>Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde</u></p>	<p>Students will spend time discussing the background and setting of the novel, identifying elements of the Victorian Era and horror novels, analyzing and discussing the characters, plot, main ideas, themes, motifs, and mood of the novel in small and large group discussions, introducing, determining meaning of, analyzing, and applying relevant vocabulary from the novel, defining and discussing figurative language within the novel, and discussing the various themes of the novel and how they relate to modern times and issues in their own personal lives.</p> <p>Assessments will include various comprehension quizzes, several vocabulary quizzes, and a final test. Students will create a novel-based project in which they will use understanding of plot and setting to depict scenes from the novel in comic book form. The project must include a visual component that depicts actual scenes from the novel and a written component that either describes what is happening in the scene or contains the dialogue of the scene AND contains at least five quotes from the novel. Students will also view scenes from the movie and will compare and contrast those with the novel.</p>	<p>5 weeks</p>
<p><u>Tuesdays with Morrie</u></p>	<p>In this unit, the students will read and analyze a memoir, a nonfiction sub genre. They will use context clues to decode vocabulary, identify use of literary elements such as figurative language, and discuss the broader themes of the novel <i>Tuesdays With Morrie</i>.</p> <p>Assessments will include various comprehension quizzes, several vocabulary quizzes, and a final test. Students will also view scenes from the movie and will compare and contrast those with the novel.</p>	<p>3 weeks</p>
<p>Vocabulary</p>	<p>Students will use context clues to define and infer meaning. Students will identify synonyms and antonyms. Students will apply figurative language within the novels.</p>	<p>Embedded in all novel units</p>

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