

**Department:** English

**Course Name:** Senior English: Comparative Literature

**Course Description:**

This year-long course focuses on literature which crosses borders and boundaries. Students will explore works from different nations, cultures, and genres; furthermore, they will investigate the relationship between literature and other forms of cultural expression, such as film and music.

Students will use writing, oral presentation, and class discussion to analyze and critique diverse works from contemporary and historical perspectives.

**Content:**

What's the Point? Existentialism and Absurdism

Self-Discovery and the Bildungsroman

Dreams versus Reality

Alienation

Apartheid, Post-Colonial Literature, and the White Savior Complex

Comics, Comedy, and the Holocaust

Magic Realism and the Monomyth

Gender and Tradition in the Grasp of the Taliban

Societal Reflection and Cultural Influence in Popular Music

Personal Statement and Supplemental Essays for college applications

**Skills:**

Evaluate the effect and influence of literature on culture and society.

Relate historical and sociological issues (race, class, gender, etc.) to their expression through literature, film, and music.

Apply and develop critical thinking strategies in analyzing literature.

Demonstrate insight about literature, music, and film and their development through writing and discussion.

Develop reading, speaking, and critical listening skills.

Conduct research and present in MLA format.

Write, revise and individually conference re: college essay writing

**Texts and Materials:**

A variety of novels, which may include:

*The Kite Runner*, Hosseini

*Maus*, Spiegelman

*The Stranger*, Camus

*"Master Harold" ...and the Boys*, Fugard

*The Bell Jar*, Plath

*Poisonwood Bible*, Kingsolver

*Love in the Time of Cholera*, Marquez

*One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, Kesey

*Midsummer Night's Dream*, Shakespeare

Various short stories, poems, songs, essays, articles, films, videos

**Methods and Instruction:**

Lecture  
Class discussion/Socratic seminar  
Class and individual projects  
Individual and group presentations  
Listening and demonstrations  
Technology including: Google Slides, Nearpod, iMovie

**Methods of Evaluation:**

Quizzes and Test  
Essays  
Oral presentation (group and individual)  
Projects

