High School English Courses

Wordsmith



English 1 (Introduction to English Literature and Composition): 1 Credit

This course will focus on what might be called personal writing skills. Note-taking, outlines, summaries, letters (both friendly and business), and "tons" of suggestions to help you to finely hone style in your writing help make the material for this year exceedingly practical. It is assumed that by high school students have received adequate instruction in basic grammar and writing mechanics, so they will not see much here about writing simple sentences or parts of speech. The emphasis is on taking writing to a level that will prepare them for further schooling or to write easily when the occasion arises in the work world. Students will also study two novels, Animal Farm and The Yearling, as a way to stretch reading and thinking skills, and also to offer opportunities to practice some of what they are learning in Wordsmith Craftsman. Units on poetry and short stories are also included to introduce students to the fundamentals of these genres and guide them in exploration of different forms and figures of speech. This course is organized in our new daily schedule format.

Texts: Animal Farm \$9.99, The Yearling \$8.50 Wordsmith Craftsman \$17.95

Tuition: \$175.00

English 2: Composition and World Literature to 1600: 1 Credit

According to Janie B. Cheaney, essays are a written expression of an author's thoughts, conclusions, or findings on any given subject. This year you will focus on the writing of descriptive, narrative, expository and persuasive essays, and try your hand at a critical book review. As you work on your own essays with the help of Wordsmith Craftsman, you will also be introduced to literary terms and various styles of writing, from poetry to short stories to speeches. In the second half of the course, you will be exposed to some examples of classic literature from ancient times to the sixteenth century and asked to choose essay topics based on these works. The aim of this course is to increase your understanding and appreciation of literature, while teaching you some techniques that you can apply to your own writing, in whatever form that takes. This course is organized in our new daily schedule format.

Texts: Wordsmith Craftsman \$17.95, Out of the Silent Planet \$14.95 Julius Caesar \$19.95

Tuition: \$175.00

North American Literature: 1 Credit

Through a broad range of stories, poetry, and novels, this course encourages students to explore the universality of human experience, while also considering how different genres and literary themes reflect North American culture through history. The first half of the course focuses on American literature, including two novels, *To Kill a Mockingbird* and *My Antonia*. In the second half we move north of the 49th parallel to explore Canadian literature, including the novels *Never Cry Wolf* and *Forbidden City*. As students will come to understand, the study of American and Canadian literature is simply another means to a better understanding of these two countries, their character, and how Christians can seek to live godly lives in North American society. This course is organized in our new daily schedule

Texts: To Kill a Mockingbird \$10.95, My Antonia \$8.95 Never Cry Wolf \$12.95, Forbidden City \$9.95

Tuition: \$175.00

World Literature Since 1600: 1 Credit

This course aims to open up to you some of the great literature of continental Europe and non-European countries, written in the past five hundred years. You will be challenged to think about the culture, history, and societies of non-English speaking peoples, as portrayed in their own writings, as well as to consider how English speakers have thought and written about other parts of the world. As you work through the course you will also find that some philosophical and literary movements have swept across national boundaries and language barriers. Over the course of the year, you will learn about the Enlightenment, Romanticism, Realism, and Modernism; Russian, Asian, African, and South American Literature; the Jewish Diaspora and British colonialism. The scope of the course is broad; thus the stories, poems, novels, and plays have been carefully selected to represent the various cultures and movements of world literature since 1600. This course is organized in our new daily schedule

Texts: A Doll's House \$3.95, King Solomon's Mines \$13.95 The Alchemist \$16.95, Cry, the Beloved Country \$18.95 One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich, \$14.95

Tuition: \$175.00

British Literature: 1 Credit

This course will help you to trace the history of literature in the land we now call the United Kingdom, from the time of the Anglo-Saxons until the twentieth century. Along the way you will see how literature is influenced by the culture that produces it. Great literature also leaps outside the bounds of time and place and affects those who live in other parts of the world.

Because of Britain's place as a major power in western civilization, its literature has probably more than any other, shaped people's thinking. As you work your way through the days of the Anglo-Saxons, the Middle Ages, the Elizabethan Era, the Age of the Puritans, the Restoration and Eighteenth Century, the Romantic Age, the Victorian Era, and the Twentieth Century, take the time to study and sincerely appreciate some of the greatest literature ever written. This course is organized in our new daily schedule format.

Texts: Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, Hamlet \$19.95 Much Ado About Nothing \$19.95, Robinson Crusoe \$12.99 Ivanhoe \$13.50, The Importance of Being Earnest \$15.95 The Remains of the Day \$16.95

Tuition: \$175.00

Advanced English Composition: 1 Credit (English or Rhetoric)

The Writer's Workshop takes an approach to teaching writing that is new only because it is so old. Today, rhetoric and composition typically proceed by ignoring what was done for 2500 years in Western education. Gregory Roper, on the other hand, helps students learn to write in the way the great writers of the past learned: by carefully imitating masters of the craft, including Cicero, Thomas Aquinas,

Charles Dickens, Sojourner Truth, James Joyce, and Ernest Hemingway. By living in their workshops and imitating these and other masters, apprentice writers – like apprentice musicians, painters, and blacksmiths of the past – will rapidly improve the complexity of their art and discover their own native voices. This course is different from any other offered by *Tree of Life*. Students will be assigned a tutor and enrolled in a small peer group (maximum of 8 students) where writing will be shared (via e-mail), critiqued, and celebrated. This is an ideal opportunity for students in their last two years of secondary school to develop advanced composition techniques.

Text: The Writer's Workshop \$18.95

Tuition: \$200.00