

Scope and Sequence

The Red Couch Reading Room's
World Literature



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-Cara L. Shelton (aka Miss Cara)

Course: RCRR's World Literature (World Lit): Take Your Place in the Great Conversation

Reading Strand	Writing Strand	Oral Strand
<p>Description: The goal of reading the texts assigned in <i>RCRR's World Lit</i> is to increase the student's critical and analytical competency. Emphasis will be placed upon five levels of interaction with the text:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Comprehension: the fundamental understanding of the text at a literal level. Through modeled reading, discussing, and being responsible for higher-level texts, the student learns to be fully cognizant during reading, and begins to develop more mature comprehension. 2. Discernment of meaning: In lecture, homework, and discussion, the student will be encouraged to find and understand the implications and inferences in a text, along with the deeper meaning they create. 3. Analysis: In <i>World Lit</i>, the student must be aware of the text as a product of its historical and sociopolitical context. 4. Critic: In this course, the student will be reminded of the reality of authorship and will be steered toward understanding the implications for theme. 5. Debating Criticism: Student will be exposed to critical analysis and guided through a process of examining the criticism via comparison with each of the major texts. <p>Student competency will be evaluated through reading comprehension quizzes, and study questions in written or oral discussion format.</p> <p>Vocabulary study is a critical element of competency, and each major unit includes a vocabulary component with assessment. Semester writing assignments provide extensive insight into a student's grasp of the works studied and their ability to work with elements of the text.</p> <p>The following texts will be covered during this course. The highlighted texts must be purchased for the class by</p>	<p>Written Response: As a natural part of the course, the lectures will cover writing a literary essay. Learning to write well, to write persuasively, to write with grace and style, is as much an art as it is a science, but we will provide examples, a short guide, and helps for the students. Writing is heavily emphasized in <i>World Literature</i>, with focus on the following goals:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Master paragraph construction. Utilize the Toulmin method of argumentation for crafting literary analysis papers. 2. Understand how to correctly format a literary analysis paper, including specific introduction, supporting paragraph, and conclusion requirements. 3. Reinforce writing style tips to help bring grace and elegance to the expression of students' thoughts. <p>In <i>World Lit</i>, the student will receive a writing packet each semester entitled <i>Occupa Locum Tuum in Conloquio Magno (Take Your Place in the Great Conversation)</i>.</p> <p>This packet includes a selections of literary responses, from which - together with their on-site teacher (parent or tutor) - the student will select three of the possible response prompts to which they will</p>	<p>Description: The student will participate in-class with their on-site teacher (parent/tutor) in dramatic readings of literary selections from a variety of genres including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poem • Speech or essay • Scene from a play • Sustained reading of a novel • Reader's Theater <p>Each semester, students will prepare to participate in a Socratic seminar around one of the works they have read. The student will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take notes to prepare for oral presentation • Use relevant textual detail to support their assertions • Explain how textual quotes support points • Cite information sources • Use body language and eye contact to indicate active listening • Pose and respond to questions • Use appropriate transitions to build on or change topics • Summarize and clarify ideas

the student/parent. Any version is acceptable for most works, I have specified an ISBN number for *The Inferno* and *MacBeth*, but make sure the edition is unabridged and the student is free to mark in it. Other items (short stories, essays, poems, plays) will be provided via pdf for the student to print out or read on an e-reader (of course, you are always welcome to procure a hard copy of any of the works, or to use a copy you own!) In a few instances, the student will be directed to an online pdf source, due to copyright restrictions:

Unit 1: Foundations -5 weeks

- *The Epic of Gilgamesh*
- *Tao Te Ching (Excerpts)*
- *Plato's Republic*
- *The Thousand and One Nights (Excerpts)*
- The Nicene Creed
- Poetry of the Early World: Egyptian, Biblical, Petrarchan, *The Rubaiyat*.

Unit 2: Renaissance & Reformation -10 weeks

- Boccaccio's *The Decameron* (Excerpts)
- Dante's *Inferno* Musa Translation,
ISBN: 978-0253209306
- Machiavelli *The Prince*
- Shakespeare *Macbeth* Folger Library Updated Edition
ISBN: 978-0743477109
- Poetry of the Renaissance: Shakespeare, Sydney, et al.

respond, forming their semester writing project. Estimated formal writing word count (for the year, divided between the two semester-long writing projects): 12,000. A simple grading rubric for the parent or on-site tutor will assist in giving an appropriate grade.

Grammar Review: Each of the 30 class lessons will include a quick "Grammar Gaffe" in which an ancient myth is retold with evident grammar errors. The student will be encouraged to locate the errors, writing the fable correctly. The teacher/parent guide will include the solution, enabling them to quickly go through the errors and the rules behind them. Worksheets accompany this exercise. The ancient myths utilized include myths from each of the populated continents: Norse, Roman, Celtic, Native American, Chinese, Russian and other tales selected to add to student's accumulated exposure to the foundational literature of cultures from around the world.

Vocabulary: Each unit in the literature course is accompanied by a vocabulary unit. Words drawn from the major works of the unit are assigned, uploaded to quizlet for study games, and weekly puzzles, games, or study helps are available with each lesson. A quiz over the vocabulary occurs at the end of the unit.

Unit 3: The Romantic & Victorian Eras - 10 weeks

- Dumas *The Count of Monte Cristo*
- Ibsen's *A Doll's House*
- Russian Shorts: The Mastery of Tolstoy & Chekov
- Plus Short Stories from around the Globe: Poe, Wilde, Chopin, Doyle, et al.
- Poetry of the Era: Blake, Keats, Shelly, von Goethe, et al.

Unit 4: The Modern Period - 5 weeks

- Wiesel's *Night*
- Kafka's *Metamorphosis*
- Short Stories: Flannery O'Connor, Katherine Mansfield, Achebe, Asimov, Brill, Wells, et al.
- Poetry: Hughes, Eliot, Yeats, Owen, Thomas, et al.