

I.B. English Literature H.L. - Course Outline

Teacher – Scott Bennett

Part 1: Works in Translation

Assessment Details: Written Assignment with Reflective Statement

External assessment: Students will participate in **interactive orals** as leaders of discussions regarding the distinct cultural or contextual aspects of the works. Students may take on the roles of teachers in leading discussions or they may introduce difficulties that they have encountered in understanding the cultural or contextual aspects of those works. Students will write **reflective statements** following the interactive orals based on their notes taken during the interactive oral. Students will engage in a process of supervised writing based on prompts that I will provide at the beginning of each lesson. Each student will produce a number of reflective statements and at least one piece of writing on each work. In class, students will study the structure and mechanics of essay writing as well as research techniques and the correct format for creating footnotes and a bibliography. Students will produce one **relevant reflective statement of 300 - 400 words (to be assessed)** and one **literary essay of 1,200 – 1,500 words (to be assessed)** generated from one relevant piece of supervised writing. The written assignment will be due in March of Year 2.

Texts:

- a) *The Odyssey* by Homer
- b) Selected Short Stories by Anton Chekhov
- c) *Persepolis* by Marjane Satrapi

Part 2: Detailed Study

Assessment Details: Individual Oral Commentary and Discussion

Individual Oral Commentary: 10 minutes.

Internal assessment: Students will learn to analyse style, structure, technique and language choices made by the authors in the works chosen for this part of the course. In preparation for this assessment students will examine each of the three works closely by engaging in close reading, literary analysis exercises, individually, in small groups and in class discussions. The Individual oral commentaries will be due in of October of Year 2.

Texts:

- a) *Hamlet* by William Shakespeare
- b) Selected Poems by Nikki Giovanni
- c) Selected Essays by George Orwell

Part 3: Literary Genres

Assessment Details:

External assessment – Paper 1 – Literary commentary (2 hours) - I will introduce the assessment requirements during Part 2, at the beginning of Year 2. Students will practice literary analysis techniques in preparation for this assessment that will be conducted in the May examination session of Year 2 .

External assessment – Paper 2 - Essay - I will introduce the assessment requirements at the beginning of Part 2 and reinforce those requirements as the students explore the Part 3 works in Year 2. Work on Part 3 will begin December of Year 2. Students will examine essay writing techniques and style during the process of engaging in close reading of the works. Students will examine the use of literary conventions to deliver content and will be expected to practice both written and oral comparative analysis. Students will also participate in small group and class discussions while studying the Part 2 and 3 works. Paper 2 will be written during the May examination session of Year 2 .

Texts:

- a) *A Farewell to Arms* by Ernest Hemingway
- b) *Oryx and Crake* by Margaret Atwood
- c) *Great Expectations* by Charles Dickens
- d) *Wuthering Heights* by Emily Bronte

Part 4: Literature and Film

Assessment Details:

Internal assessment - Individual oral presentation - I will introduce the assessment requirements for the Individual oral presentation as the class begins to explore Part 4 of the syllabus in September. It is essential for the students to understand the assessment requirements as we begin our exploration of the connections between Literature and Film and to be reminded of the requirements as the term progresses. The Individual oral presentations will be due by the beginning of November and all students will have completed their oral presentations by the second week of November. During our exploration of Literature and Film we will examine the importance of thematic development, setting (geographic and cultural), the various styles and techniques employed in writing and filmmaking and the authors'/filmmakers' perspectives and attitudes toward their subject matter. Students will be expected to consider different elements of the works from different perspectives. The students will be introduced to and practice of a variety of appropriate presentation techniques and strategies to engage an audience.

Texts:

- a) *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck
- b) *Heart of Darkness/Apocalypse Now* by Joseph Conrad
- c) *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte