

COURSE OVERVIEW FOR English/Literature MS/HS



7th Grade Literature

This class uses the *Of People* text book from A Beka. Students read a variety of short stories from this text and will also read one novel, and are thus introduced to a wide range of literature genres and styles. The focus of this course is to introduce students to elements of literature such as plot, characters, foreshadowing, irony, etc. and to increase their appreciation for and love of reading. They will also learn to look for God's provision and protection through some of the stories they read and will begin a basic application of a Christian worldview to literature. Students complete various projects and other activities as enrichment to their reading and complete tests that require conceptual thinking, not just basic recall.

7th Grade English

The text for this course consists of two books: *Writing and Grammar 7* from BJU Press and *Vocabulary, Spelling and Poetry I* from A Beka. Using these texts, students learn grammatical terms and concepts. They will focus on how sentences work and will see the orderliness of God reflected in the language as they deconstruct its parts. They will also enrich their vocabulary and will reinforce spelling rules and skills. Writing activities and projects will be provided as opportunities for students to reinforce the skills and concepts addressed.

8th Grade Literature

This class uses the *Of Places* text book from A Beka. Students read a variety of short stories from this text and will also read one novel, and are thus introduced to a wide range of literature genres and styles. The focus of this course is to continue introducing students to elements of literature such as plot, characters, foreshadowing, irony, etc. and to prepare them for the literature they will encounter in high school. They will also learn to look for God's grace through some of the stories they read and will continue to expand upon their basic application of a Christian worldview to literature. Students complete various projects and other activities as enrichment to their reading and complete tests that require conceptual thinking, not just basic recall.

8th Grade English

The text for this course consists of two books: *Writing and Grammar 8* from BJU Press and *Vocabulary, Spelling and Poetry II* from A Beka. Using these texts, students reinforce and learn new grammatical terms and concepts. They will continue to focus on how sentences work and will see the orderliness of God reflected in the language as they deconstruct its parts. They will also enrich their vocabulary and will reinforce spelling rules and skills. Writing activities and projects will be provided as opportunities for students to reinforce the skills and concepts addressed.

9th /10th Grade English/Literature

This class works on a 2-year rotation; one year the students will have American Literature, and the other they will have British Literature. Each of these classes uses several novels and short stories by various authors as the basis for discussion of literary terms and themes. Students will study the works of writers from the two regions and will apply not only literary concepts and the study of themes and motifs, but will also look for distinctive patterns in the development of literature in each region. Each of these classes will also spend time working on vocabulary enrichment, writing skills (through various essays and a research paper) and oral communication.

11th /12th Grade English/Literature

This class works on a 2-year rotation; one year the students will have World Literature, and the other they will have Christianity and Modern Literature. Each of these classes uses several novels and short stories by various authors as the basis for discussion of literary terms and themes. In World Literature, students will be introduced to works of literature from all over the world and will spend time studying and discussing the affect one's cultural background has on writing. In Christianity and Modern Literature, students will study various novels and short stories (mostly by Christian authors) and will discuss the worldviews present in these works while analyzing questions such as "What types of stories should a Christian author write?" and "How should a Christian author deal with sin in their works?." Each of these classes will also spend time working on vocabulary enrichment, writing skills (through various essays and a research paper) and oral communication.

Speech and Drama

This class focuses on exposing students to various plays and elements of drama as well as giving them opportunities to enhance their public speaking skills through a variety of speeches and opportunities to act in skits in chapel. Students will analyze various famous plays, such as Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* or Agatha Christie's *The Mousetrap* and will have the opportunity to read through and act these plays out in class. They will also be involved in the production of the spring play and will learn about the play production process through this experience.