**Curriculum**

**English 12 International**

**Course Overview**

This course focuses on literature from around the world while meeting the needs of non-native speakers of English. As the main focus of the course is the study of literature, students are expected to develop their ability to read closely and critically, and to respond actively to the literature by evaluating the works and formulating relevant questions and opinions about them. The students are also expected to improve their language skills through the study and application of vocabulary and grammar, the practice of writing and oral skills, and the improvement of reading comprehension.

**Department Standards**

Students will:  
1. develop critical thinking skills that will encourage them to make connections between literature and both their own lives and other academic disciplines;  
2. develop an appreciation for literature through the comprehension and analysis of various genres;  
3. communicate their understanding and ideas effectively in a variety of written forms;  
4. articulate organized ideas through a variety of oral activities;  
5. expand and strengthen their vocabularies to enhance their ability to understand and communicate;  
6. and learn and apply the standard conventions of the English language in both speaking and writing.

**Benchmarks**:

1.1 Students will continue to develop as a reader and listener for personal, social, and ethical purposes through independent and collaborative reading.

1.2 Students will develop, through reflection and creative thinking and expression, an enthusiasm for the value of the study of literature.

1.3 Students will respond to texts as expressions of the spectrum of shared human experience.

1.4 Students will use writing and speaking for personal and academic growth.

2.1 Students will respond to classic and contemporary British texts in a variety of genres.

2.2 Students will understand and interpret texts in terms of specific literary and historical contexts.

2.3 Students will construct meaning beyond the literal level by understanding and interpreting a range of techniques and devices.

2.4 Students will develop active reading and listening skills to identify and utilize salient features and devices to enhance their understanding and appreciation of texts.

3.1 Students will develop the ability to explore and refine topics/questions; create a thesis; gather and analyze evidence; draw conclusions; and compose a response.

3.2 Students will further refine their awareness of writing for different purposes using expository, persuasive, descriptive, and narrative writing and will demonstrate the ability to organize their ideas in a standard five-paragraph format (introduction containing thesis, body paragraphs and conclusion).

3.3 Students will practice writing as a recursive process both independently and cooperatively.

3.4 Students will develop language and writing skills in order to communicate ideas precisely and clearly in written form.

3.5 Students will explore and communicate ideas, draw conclusions, and compose personal responses in both formal and informal written style, incorporating a range of literary devices.

4.1 Students will demonstrate an understanding of both the literal and figurative meaning of a text through summarizing, paraphrasing and analyzing in oral form, using informal discussion as well as more formal types of oral assessment.

4.2 Students will communicate and analyze ideas, draw conclusions, and compose personal responses in a variety of oral activities.

5.1 Students will demonstrate an understanding of an increasingly varied vocabulary that enhances the ability to communicate meaning effectively in multiple contexts.

6.1 Students will build upon knowledge and use of the standard structures and conventions of English grammar in order to speak, write, and think more effectively.

**Performance Indicators**

Students will demonstrate, through discussion and through written work, a growing ability to read literature beyond literal meaning.

Students will demonstrate an ability to read aloud with appropriate pacing, intonation, and expression.

Students will demonstrate an ability to read independently and to extract meaning of unknown vocabulary from context.

Students will identify common literary elements through discussion, example, and more formal written assessment.

Students will reflect on their own experiences in relation to themes and events in works of literature through discussion, presentation, and writing.

Students will demonstrate improvement in grammar, syntax, and word choice, through written assessment and class discussion.

Students will demonstrate an ability to formulate a clear thesis statement and to organize ideas coherently and with increasing sophistication in conventional essay form.

Students will explore ideas and themes through discussion and writing.

Students will demonstrate understanding of literature beyond literal meaning in discussion groups.

Students will collaborate cooperatively and exchange ideas effectively in small teacher-monitored groups.

Students will demonstrate understanding of literary themes and their connection to real world issues through oral presentations and multimedia projects.

Students will demonstrate an understanding of interpretation of dramatic texts through group performances.

**Assessments**

- vocabulary quizzes (throughout the year) - reading quizzes (throughout the year)

Quarter 1

- written responses to study guide questions

- essay comparing *Brave New World* and *1984*

- written analysis of persuasive passage

- propaganda project

- rhetorical analysis of speech

Quarter 2

- write a satire

- in-class written analysis of a passage

- essay comparing *Jekyll and Hyde* and *The Importance of Being Earnest*

- comprehensive exam

Quarter 3

- written paraphrasing and explanation of certain passages

- rhetorical analysis of a sonnet

- in-class essay on scene

- drama project

Quarter 4

- comparison of Romantic poetry

- in-class essay analysing setting and character

- write Romantic poetry

- essay analysing the impact of a modern technology on society

- essay analysing Romantic elements in *Frankenstein*

- comprehensive exam

**Core Topics**

- vocabulary development (throughout the year)

- use of literary terminology in analysis (throughout the year)

Quarter 1

- dystopian novels and their connections with contemporary society

- Modernism

- analysing and using rhetoric

- propaganda

- satire

- individualism and conformity

Quarter 2

- Victorian culture and literature

- satire

- drama

- comedy

- morality and hypocrisy

Quarter 3

- Shakespearean drama

- Renaissance culture and literature

- comedy

- Metaphysical poetry- double meanings and artifice

Quarter 4

- Romanticism – novels and poetry

- tragedy

- the relationship between nature and humans

- the impact of technology

**Specific Content**

Quarter 1

- how Orwell and Huxley explore different visions of the future in their dystopian novels

- how humans can be driven to conformity and compliance through fear, pleasure, and other social pressures

- how dystopian literature satirizes contemporary society

- how Orwell and Huxley show the effects of propaganda

- how rhetoric can be used to persuade responsibly

Quarter 2

- how Victorian social pressures create hypocrisy and anxiety

- how Wilde and Stevenson satirize or criticize Victorian social mores

- how tragedy and comedy can be used to make effective social critiques

- how irony can be used for humor or to create suspense

Quarter 3

- how Shakespeare’s language shaped society

- how comedy can explore social issues

- how language can be used to create deliberate double meanings in order to deceive or manipulate

- how Shakespeare and other Renaissance writers explore and deconstruct love in their drama and poetry

Quarter 4

- how poetic metaphor and imagery enhance our perception of the world around us

- how nature affects our mood and how our mood can affect our perceptions of reality

- how Romantic writers explore the “sublime” and the spiritual connections between humanity and nature

- how science and technology impact us on cultural, social, moral, and personal levels

**Resources**

2013-2014 Summer Reading: *1984*

*Brave New World*

*The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*

*The Importance of Being Earnest*

*Frankenstein*

*Much Ado about Nothing*

Selected British poetry, speeches, and essays