

Course Intro / Overview:

VOICES OF MODERN CULTURE! (VMC)



Course Selection Season
2022

COURSE DETAILS

- ❖ College-prep course; mixed group of students with a variety of post-high school goals
- ❖ Focused on further practice & refinement of cross-curricular, foundational, widely transferable skills
 - *Interactive reading*
 - *Dynamic speaking*
 - *Purpose-driven writing*
- ❖ Real-world / real-life / modern-relevance focused tasks
- ❖ Combination of visual/written texts from many genres (*poetry, fiction, non-fiction, journalism, film, essays, images, etc.*)
- ❖ **Balanced thinking: both *critical* + *creative***

TEXTS: *MODERN NARRATIVES,*
NOVELS, POETRY, &
NON-FICTION

OUR MAJOR COURSE SKILLS:

Enhanced analysis of personal writing style and techniques (Not only a description of the literary techniques used in a narrative/poem/piece, but how and why they were used)

and

critique (evaluating the effectiveness of an author's writing choices, creating an original critical response using a key aspect of the critical race and/or gender lens, etc).

SEMESTER OVERVIEWS

FALL SEMESTER	SPRING SEMESTER	TEXTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How do individuals craft, create, or develop a strong voice?• How do individual voices and values intersect in literature & other forms of storytelling?• What writing choices can authors make to effectively convey a message, or to detract from a message?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How do larger societal voices impact individuals?• What do larger voices that make up modern culture have to say? What ISN'T being said?• Whose voices are prominent in modern media, and whose are less obvious or visible?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fall: narrative fiction and non-fiction pieces, <i>The Kite Runner</i>• Spring: poetry, <i>American Born Chinese</i>, <i>The Wolves</i>, student choice text

ADDITIONAL UNITS OF STUDY

- INDIVIDUAL VOICES
- PERSONAL NARRATIVE
- PERFORMANCE POETRY
- MODERN MEDIA + ADVERTISING
- STUDENT CHOICE READING: *1-2 Projects Throughout the Year*

COMPARISON: BRIT LIT vs. AP LIT vs. VMC

BRIT LIT	VMC	AP LIT
<p><u>AUDIENCE:</u> You plan to go on to college, into the workforce, etc. after college</p> <p><u>SKILLS:</u> Close reading and analytical / argumentative writing are largely emphasized</p> <p><u>DAY-TO-DAY:</u> more of a blend of history and literature than VMC</p>	<p><u>AUDIENCE:</u> You plan to go on to college, into the workforce, etc. after graduation; you feel comfortable writing about yourself (2 major assessments involve this focus!)</p> <p><u>SKILLS:</u> Reading a variety of styles of texts (narratives, fiction and nonfiction, plays, poetry, etc) critique, and adaptability of writing for different purposes are largely emphasized</p> <p><u>DAY-TO-DAY:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Big emphasis on applications of texts to modern issues/culture/society/values/perspectives, which isn't as present in the other two classes ● Nontraditional vs. traditional text-base (i.e. not just plays + novels -- also poetry, film, media, etc.) ● It's not easy, but the workload is manageable ● 2nd semester, in particular, is largely about getting you ready for college writing /reading / thinking demands 	<p><u>AUDIENCE:</u> You plan to go on to college, into the workforce, etc. after graduation, & likely plan on a major/career in the humanities; you took ALH</p> <p><u>SKILLS:</u> Writing + reading are heavily emphasized, and nearly all of the writing is literary analysis (limited argumentative/creative writing)</p> <p><u>DAY-TO-DAY:</u> Less range in types of texts/writing tasks/projects than VMC -- more focus on the traditional "canon" rather than modern texts</p>