

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>