

MULTICULTURAL LITERATURE & COMPOSITION [ML]

Can satisfy GA Dept of Education courses such as 23.06100, 23.06200, 23.06700

Course Description: This is a core, skill-based class designed for any age or grade of high school student. The **literature** component introduces literary and rhetorical analysis nonfiction, short stories, visual media, speeches, novels, and poetry. **Grammar** is approached via analysis of how each student's writing parallels standard written English, and remediation is tailored to each student's specific needs. ML also strengthens the student's ability to organize data and **communicate** it effectively to a designated audience through composition, group communication, and public speaking. Most classwork is hands-on and active, designed for those who like to be on their feet and engaging in practical writing and speaking activities, many with a real audience.

Primary Resources (Perrine text and *Outcasts United* are purchased by students):

- Laurence Perrine's *Literature: Structure, Sound, and Sense*, Fifth Edition (bright purple cover), ISBN 0155511084. Text includes most works we will study by the likes of Orwell, Connell, Frost, King, Welty, Walker, Singer, Eliot, Yeats, Tolstoy, and Auden.
- Frank, Bob and Frank Hildy. *Speaker's Notebook: A Guide to Effective Public Speaking*. Minneapolis, MI: Burgess, 1982 (resourced by instructor, not for student purchase).

Content and Objectives:

1. The class will identify rhetorical devices in multicultural fiction and nonfiction, as well as literary analysis techniques suitable for any genre of literature.
2. The student will not only analyze literature but create some of their own.
3. The student will practice grammar and writing error correction by analyzing and correcting their own writing and that of their classmates. Students will learn editing and revision skills.
4. Each student will learn various types of practical writing such as preparing interview questions for guests and creating a skill-based resume.
5. The student will demonstrate ability to analyze an ACT essay prompt and plan an appropriate response using actual prompts from ACT materials and tests.
6. The student will learn means of creatively and accurately writing college and scholarship application essays using questions from real sources. Older students can work on actual letters they will send.
7. Each student will research and work toward a final product of a five-to-seven-page paper complete with outline, well organized and documented support, and MLA format.
8. The student will present the following speeches to the class: demonstration with poster/visual aid, persuasive with PowerPoint or Keynote, and informative with white board/visual aids.
9. The student will analyze and demonstrate the role of the visual aid and nonverbal skills in workplace and academic communication.
10. The student will demonstrate skills necessary to interview successfully for a job.
11. The student will explore methods of communicating and resolving issues within a small group.
12. The class will interact with guests from the workplace community, asking appropriate questions and writing thank-you notes to speakers and mock interviewers.