



International Baccalaureate

English A Language and Literature

Mr. Hollowell Fall 2021

The language A: literature course introduces students to the analysis of literary texts. It is the course through which the IB's policy of mother-tongue entitlement is delivered.

The course is organized into three areas of exploration and seven central concepts and focuses on the study of literary works. Together, the three areas of exploration of the course add up to a comprehensive exploration of literature from a variety of cultures, literary forms, and periods.

Students learn to appreciate the artistry of literature and develop the ability to reflect critically on their reading, presenting literary analysis powerfully through both oral and written communication.

Key features of the curriculum and assessment models

- Students study 13 works at higher level and 9 works at standard level from a representative selection of literary forms, periods and places
- Students develop the ability to engage in close, detailed analysis of literary works, building understanding of the techniques involved in literary criticism
- The study of literary works in context is emphasized, and through the study of literature in translation the student is challenged to reflect on the role of cultural assumptions in interpretation
- Students are assessed through a combination of formal examination and oral and written coursework.
- The formal examination comprises two essay papers, one requiring the analysis of a passage of unseen literary text, and the other comparative response to a question based on two works studied
- Students also perform an oral activity presenting their analysis of two works studied
- HL students comply with an additional written coursework requirement which consists of writing a 1200 - 1500 word essay on one of the works studied

Presumed Knowledge of Students Entering IB DP English:

- Students actively read literary and informational texts to form individual perspective on essential questions.
- Students recognize and cite strong textual information in support of individual claims about a text
- Students reflect on the cultural perspectives presented in a wide range of world literature
- Explain how literal, mythological, and historical allusion functions in a specific work

- Demonstrate an understanding of the impact literary fiction/ non-fiction has on culture and government.
- Students embed relevant information from the texts in compositions.
- Students cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support literary analysis.
- Students conduct research to answer a question and synthesize multiple sources on the topic.
- Students Introduce precise claim(s), establish the significance of the claim(s), and sequence the claim(s), reasons, and evidence.
- Students demonstrate an ability to anticipate the audience's knowledge level, concerns, values, and possible biases.
- Students strategically use academic and domain-specific vocabulary appropriate for the audience and purpose.
- Students collaborate in diverse settings to develop their own ideas and express their conclusions clearly.
- Students evaluate the credibility of diverse media and other sources.
- Students assess a speaker's point of view, reasoning, and use of evidence and rhetoric.
- Students present information to an audience clearly, concisely, and logically so that listeners can follow the rationale and sequence of the discussion.
- Students make strategic use of digital media to enhance findings and add interest.

2021 – 2022 Required Texts: The books listed below should be purchased in hard copy for annotation purposes by the first week of school in September.

1. Jamaica Kincaid: *Annie John*
2. Pablo Neruda: *The Essential Neruda*
3. F Scott Fitzgerald: *The Great Gatsby*
4. Jean Paul Sartre: *No Exit*
5. Audre Lorde: *Sister Outsider*
6. Sylvia Plath: *Collected Poems*
7. Alice Walker: *Taking the Arrow Out of the Heart*
8. Dai Sijie: *Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress*

Course Links: Please review carefully.

1. [Reviewing Literary Technique and Style](#)
2. [IB English Subject Guide](#)
3. [Mr. Hollowell's Course Website](#)

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