

English 12: World Literature
Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School
2013-2014

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Course Objectives:

This course is designed to give students a taste of literature and film from around the world. Multiple perspectives, themes, voices, movements, and commentaries will be examined, compared, discussed, reflected on, and written about. To do this, students will employ all language skills, including reading, writing, listening and speaking. Students will refine and utilize their research skills, and they will broaden their literary and critical vocabularies, while gaining an appreciation for the multitude of literary voices in our very diverse world.

Essential Questions:

- 1) What is magical realism? When/why do we find it in literature?
- 2) How do themes in literature reflect our common AND diverse experiences as humans in this world?
- 3) Why must we be always be curious, questioning, and reflective?
- 4) How can words make us powerful?
- 5) How can resources and research tools empower us as lifelong learners?

Reading List:

Online/digital versions are acceptable

- 1) The Little Prince by Antoine de Saint-Exupery ISBN: 978-0156012195
- 2) Collected Short Stories by Gabriel Garcia Marquez ISBN: 60812451
- 3) Metamorphosis and Other Stories by Franz Kafka ISBN: 9780199238552
- 4) Tao Te Ching ISBN: 9780061142666
- 5) Slaughterhouse Five by Kurt Vonnegut ISBN: 9780385333849
- 6) Hamlet by William Shakespeare ISBN: 9780393929584
- 7) Word Smart ISBN 978030794502

Laughable Loves by Milan Kundera (ISBN: 780060997038) will only be used for EXTRA CREDIT

Grading and Calendar Policy:

Grade Breakdown:

Discussion/Participation 20%
Formal Writing 40%
Homework 20%
Tests and Quizzes 20%

Jupiter and Google Calendar:

EVERY effort will be made to make sure the class calendar and grades are kept up-to-date. Please stay up-to-date on these grading and scheduling tools as well.

Submitting Work:

Editing Drafts:

All non-final drafts must be double-spaced and submitted in paper form for ease of teacher editing.

Final Drafts:

Final drafts must be double-spaced, and may be submitted by sharing or emailing via the student's Rabun Gap gmail account, or printed.

Resubmissions:

Student work may always be fixed, improved, and/or edited for an improved grade within the same semester. The amount of points that may be earned is up to teacher discretion, based on the type of assignment and the amount of time that has passed. The teacher will clearly outline the possible points before the student revises and/or resubmits work. In fact, resubmission opportunities will often be recorded on a student's edited piece of work, next to the original grade given.

Late Work:

Every effort should be made to submit work on time, just as every effort will be made to return graded work promptly to the students. This is a matter of mutual respect between the teacher and student.

However, there are many valid reasons for students to submit late work. Although deadlines are a very real part of life, and they must be respected, we must also realize that late work is a reality of life. Within reason, when a student takes initiative to discuss late work BEFORE it is late, late work will be accepted, and credit will be given in full and partial form on a case-by-case basis. The teacher will clearly outline the credit possibilities during the preemptive conversation. Initiative, responsibility, and follow-through will be handsomely rewarded in cases of late work; abuse of this privilege and lack of follow-through will result in less teacher flexibility.

Cell Phone Policy:

Cell phones and all other forms of technology (computers, tablets, translators) are INVALUABLE resources for students in an English class. They provide tools that I DO NOT want to take away. It is up to the student to ENSURE that he/she is using technology properly in class. Students who utilize technology that becomes distracting will have their privileges revoked IMMEDIATELY and INDEFINITELY, WITHOUT CONVERSATION, and students who force the teacher to remove the technological tools will only hurt themselves.

Honor Code:

The Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School Honor Code must be upheld AT ALL TIMES. Lying, cheating, stealing AND/OR tolerating others to do so will result in swift Honor Council repercussions. The following are specific examples of how the Honor Code must be upheld in this class:

- 1) Homework, classwork, and assessments must be completed independently unless specified as group work. Group work guidelines will ALWAYS be very clear.
- 2) Only one word can be translated at a time...not a phrase or sentence.
- 3) All sources must be properly cited.
- 4) Other peoples'/sources' phrases or sentences or ideas MAY NOT BE copied word for word unless properly cited and put in quotation marks.
- 5) Students are expected to read assigned books, not just the Spark Notes or Wikipedia or other abbreviated versions of the texts.
- 6) Students must have personal responsibility with their technology in class.
- 7) Students write "Always Honorable" on all graded assignments.