



ENGLISH 10 HONORS

2021-2022 SYLLABUS

INSTRUCTOR: Catherine Lee

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COURSE OVERVIEW

This is a reading and writing intensive course that covers major works of western literature primarily from the Middle Ages to the Renaissance. Our focus will be on literary analysis, rhetorical skills, and a biblical worldview. You will develop writing skills in the areas of organization, style, and voice.

TEXTS

The following texts are supplemented by a broad selection of short stories, poetry, and essays.

- Independent Reading Selection (summer)
- *Cyrano de Bergerac*, Edmond Rostand (summer)
- *Macbeth*, William Shakespeare
- *Beowulf*
- *The Hobbit*, J.R.R. Tolkien
- “The Knight’s Tale” from *Canterbury Tales*
- *Inferno*, Dante Alighieri
- *Paradise Lost*, John Milton

N.B. Literature has a unique way of reflecting the human condition. Works are selected for literary merit and college readiness, and may occasionally contain mature content or language. The texts are taught prayerfully from a Biblical worldview and with historical and cultural context in mind.

FILMS

Films are treated as texts as they foster discussions on intertextuality, revisionism, and tropes.

- *Cyrano de Bergerac*, in French with English subtitles (1990)
- *Macbeth*, Folger Shakespeare stage production (2008)
- *The Hobbit 1-3* (2012-2014)

SPEECHES

On numerous occasions, students are expected to speak in front of the class in both informal and formal presentations. There will also be 1 memorized recitation per semester.

CLASSROOM CIVILITY

“Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.” Colossians. 3:12

There will be many opportunities for class discussions and debates. You are encouraged to speak your mind in a manner that is Christ-like and respectful of others with differing perspectives.

MAKE UP WORK POLICY

You have one day for each excused absence to make up work. If unexcused, missed hw is due the day you return. If you know you will be absent, contact me ahead of time, NOT the day something is due. Refer to the BCS handbook for details. If you miss an appointment to make up a test or quiz, you will receive a zero.

GRADE DISTRIBUTION

- Participation, Engagement, & Preparedness (P.E.P) 10%
- Homework 20%
- Quizzes 35%
- Tests (including major papers and projects) 35%

Unless otherwise noted, assignments should be turned into the tray *at the beginning of class*. Work placed in the wrong tray will be considered late. There are at least three test grades per quarter and a final exam at the end of the semester. A research paper is assigned in the 2nd semester.

P.E.P. GRADE – Reflects student engagement in class and preparedness (bring materials to class, participate in discussions, completes bellwork, etc.).

RETURNED WORK – Shorter essays will be graded and returned to students approximately 1 week from the due date. Longer essays will take approximately 2 weeks.

FEEDBACK – Students can expect a range of feedback. Many writing assignments are returned with feedback. Shorter or informal writing may be graded with little to no comments, especially when the focus is on practice. Twice a year, I conduct individual writing conferences with students.

GUIDELINES & PROCEDURES

- Academic dishonesty, including plagiarism and cheating, will result in a zero and a referral.
- All formal writing will follow MLA guidelines. This is consistent with college English courses.
- During tests and quizzes, place your backpacks and all other belongings against the wall.
- You will write and sign the honor code at the bottom of every test.
- Use a blue or black pen for all homework, quizzes, and tests. No pencils, please.
- No spoilers! If you have already read a book or watched a film adaptation, don't spoil the plot.
- Write clearly and legibly. Illegible assignments will be marked *Incomplete* and you may be required to rewrite or type your work. Feel free to type any take-home assignments.

IMPORTANT WEBSITES

RENWEB – Daily homework assignments, lesson plans, attendance, and grades

LEECLASSROOM.COM – Class notes, rubrics, and resources (Password: 2COR4)

GOOGLE CLASSROOM – Used during in-person learning for occasional online assignments and discussion boards. If we move to online learning, it will be our primary platform (Class code: al2ubw7)

REMIND.COM – Text announcements and reminders (Text @bcs10h to the number 81010)

TURNITIN.COM – Essay originality and plagiarism reports (Class ID: 30264098 / Enrollment key: beowulf)

*“There is always the danger that we may just do the work for the sake of the work. This is where the **respect** and the **love** and the devotion come in – that we do it to God, to Christ, and that’s why we try to do it as beautifully as possible.” ~Mother Teresa*