



English 10: World Literature

Emily Rose Skirtich, M.Ed.

As a graduate of Saint Mary's College and Duquesne University, respectively, Miss Skirtich is a certified teacher in Pennsylvania, Illinois, and South Carolina where she holds her 7-12 certification in English and K-12 certification in Instructional Technology. She is also continuing her studies in her doctoral program at the University of Pittsburgh studying School Leadership. This is her fifth year teaching at North. In addition to teaching English, she also tutors students who want extra help with SAT prep and writing skills outside of school. Her experience in the public sector teaching grades 7 through 12 pilots her drive to teach students within the context of the Marianist Tradition upon which North Catholic was founded.

Course Description

The English 10 World Literature course engages students in the reading of works from a variety of places and perspectives to understand how universal themes span culture and time periods. Students will investigate multiple global perspectives as they are presented through various modes of literature. This class strives to impart and improve reading comprehension, critical thinking, vocabulary, grammar, usage, and writing skills through varied texts, activities, and instruction. As such, students can expect to encounter the following processes in and out of the classroom throughout the year. By expanding their cultural boundaries, students study the subjects of diversity and prejudices while recognizing their role as global citizens. The goals of this course are the help students improve their ability to read for understanding, to encourage students in using effective modes of discourse about what they read, to assist students in writing about life and literature, and to engender creative methods of synthesis and application of literary and cross- cultural ideas. Further, this course aims to expose students to unfamiliar ideas and histories from several other cultures and invites them to interact honestly but respectfully with those ideas.

Marianist Charisms

The Marianist order is distinguished by certain charisms, or gifts given by God for the benefit of the Christian community. These charisms guide all Marianist ministries and programs:

People of faith

As spiritual individuals, Marianists carry out God's will in their service to others.

Followers of Mary

Marianists view Mary as the model of discipleship. Just as Mary gave birth to Jesus, Marianists seek to bring the presence of Jesus to life within themselves and others.

People of Community

Marianists believe that living, praying and supporting one another in community enriches their faith and strengthens their ability to meet world challenges – especially problems associated with poverty and ignorance.

Discipleship of equals

Brothers and priests share equal status within the Society of Mary. Priesthood is viewed as a ministry, not a “step up the ladder.”

Leaders in mission

The Marianist mission is to bring Christ to the world and to work for the coming of His kingdom.

Course Resources*

- Student portable technology device (cell phone, laptop, tablet, etc with a charger)
- Notebook for journaling ONLY
- Notebook for notes
- Highlighters
- Notecards
- “Hamlet” by William Shakespeare
- *Animal Farm* by George Orwell
- *Inferno* by Dante Alighieri
- *The Hiding Place* by Corrie Ten Boom
- *The Song at the Scaffold* by Gertrud von Le Fort
- Short stories and poems from various authors
- Miss Skirtich's website: www.missskirtich.com
- Usage of student PCR and Office 365 account

**texts are subject to change due to pacing, text availability, etc.*

End of Course Outcomes

- Students will be able to:
 - Use technology to delve more in depth into a piece of literature
 - Identify different themes and points in literature
 - Utilize proper grammar and mechanics in formalized writing
 - Write strong thesis statements in formalized writing

Major Subject Area Academic Standards Addressed

- Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.
- Use technology, including the Internet, to produce, publish, and update individual or shared writing products, taking advantage of technology’s capacity to link to other information and to display information flexibly and dynamically.
- Gather relevant information from multiple authoritative print and digital sources, using advanced searches effectively; assess the usefulness of each source in answering the research question; integrate information into the text selectively to maintain the flow of ideas, avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation.
- Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.
- Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research, applying grade-level reading standards for literature and literary nonfiction.
- Write with an awareness of the stylistic aspects of writing.
- Use parallel structure.
- Use various types of phrases and clauses to convey meaning and add variety and interest.

- Create a smooth progression of experiences or events using a variety of techniques to sequence events so that they build on one another to create a coherent whole; provide a conclusion that follows from and reflects on what is experienced, observed, or resolved over the course of the narrative.

Expectations

You are expected to:

- Come prepared for class everyday
- Participate in class everyday
- Do the daily homework when assigned
- Work together cooperatively in your groups
- Formulate and ask questions
- Have some fun
- Expect some difficulty

The Teacher is expected to:

- Come prepared to teach everyday
- Help students learn
- Be available outside of class for questions
- Give students timely feedback
- Have some fun
- Be stumped by a few questions

Rights

You have the right to:

- Be treated with respect by everyone in the class
- Work in a learning environment

The Teacher has the right to:

- Teach in a learning environment
- Enforce all school and classroom policies
- Expect the most from each and every student in her classroom

Plagiarism

Plagiarism of any kind will not be tolerated. The school policy is listed in the student handbook. If the infraction occurs in this course, the student will receive a "0" for the assignment. Additionally, he or she will face disciplinary action. For more information, please see the Student Handbook.

Replacement Books

All books are the property of either Cardinal Wuerl North Catholic High School or the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. They are distributed and collected throughout the year at the completion of each unit, and will be assessed for damages at the time of return. Each student is personally responsible for the care and maintenance of the books assigned to him/her. A charge of \$25 will be assessed for lost and/or damaged books, or the student may bring in an exact copy (same edition, cover, etc.). Please note that after a two-week grace period,

if payment or replacement has not been provided, the student account will be charged. Once a charge is placed on the account it will not be removed, even if the book is returned.

Damages that warrant the replacement of a book are as follows, but are not limited to this list:

- Bent/torn pages, cover, or binding
- Missing pages or cover
- Excessive water or liquid damage
- Stains or writing/highlighting on the cover or pages

Make-up Policy

Tests can be made up by appointment only. The time allowed to make up homework or tests is twice the number of consecutive days absent. Students will receive 10% off of the total assignment grade per day it is late. Retrieving missed work is the student's responsibility! There is a calendar posted on Miss Skirtich's website (www.missskirtich.com) stating what was given for homework everyday of the week.

Extra Help

I am always willing to meet with any student before or after school, however I ask you to please check with me the day you want to get extra help. In addition to teaching, I tutor outside of school and am sometimes busy immediately after school. I encourage you to come and get help at the first sign of difficulty. Please do not wait. The longer you wait the further you will fall behind, so don't be afraid to come and talk to me. Feel free to e-mail me or see me after class.

Responsibilities for Each Student Everyday

- Treat people how you would want to be treated.
- Stay in your seats until I dismiss you.
- The use of negative words which includes swearing or any words that degrade any person or groups of people are not allowed.
- Food, drink, candy, etc. are allowed in the classroom upon permission from the teacher. Use discretion is advised.
- The Code of Conduct is in effect and enforced at all times. For further information, please read the handbook.

Course Units by Sequence with Short Description

- Russian Revolution & *Animal Farm*
- Define Yourself: The Renaissance Man in *Inferno* and "Hamlet"
- Goal setting: Where Do You See Yourself?
- The College Process and Project: Research and Analysis
- Let's Write It Out: French Flash Fiction in the French Revolution & *The Song at the Scaffold*
- Christ in Times of Terror: The Holocaust and *The Hiding Place*

Student Assessments

- Exams

- Quizzes
- Projects
- College Research Paper
- Exit Slips
- Journals

Grading

A: 93-100%

B: 85-92%

C: 75-84%

D: 70-74%

Failing: Below 74

Contact Information

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By signing this syllabus, I, _____ agree and fully understand all
(print student name)

information herein and abide **entirely** by the policies and procedures of the Student Handbook put forth by

Cardinal Wuerl North Catholic High School. I, _____
(print student name)

have read the course syllabus and shared it with my parents and am fully aware that I am responsible

for contacting Miss Skirtich if an issue were to arrive **before** my parents contact Miss Skirtich.

Student signature X _____ Date _____

Parent signature: X _____ Date: _____