

Grade 11 English Language Arts (ELA)



Dominican International School

Course Syllabus

School Year 2026–27



Teacher Name: Jenny Pan

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

In this course, students will explore a broad selection of American literature organized by historical periods, gaining insight into the cultural, social, and political forces that shaped each era. Through the study of fiction, non-fiction, drama, and poetry, students will learn to analyze literary texts, identify key themes, and evaluate how authors express meaning through language and structure.

Emphasis will be placed on developing critical reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills aligned with the Common Core State Standards. Students will engage in thoughtful discussions, creative and analytical writing assignments, and collaborative activities that connect literature to contemporary issues and personal experiences.

In addition, students will strengthen their command of English by examining the technical aspects of grammar, vocabulary, and composition. This course encourages students not only to appreciate the richness of American literary traditions but also to reflect on the relevance of literature in their own lives and communities.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

By the end of this course, students will be able to read and analyze complex literary and informational texts from various genres and historical periods, evaluating how central themes develop and how authors reflect or challenge the values of their time. They will cite strong textual evidence to support their interpretations, make meaningful connections between literature and contemporary issues, and express their ideas clearly through well-structured writing. Students will conduct research, develop arguments, and revise their work for clarity and precision. They will also expand their academic vocabulary, strengthen their grammar and language skills, and engage in thoughtful discussions and presentations that demonstrate effective speaking and listening.

PRIMARY TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER RESOURCES:

- Textbook: Into Literature (Houghton/Mifflin/Harcourt)
- HMH Grammar Practice (Houghton/Mifflin/Harcourt)
- Class Novels

GRADING SYSTEM/ASSESSMENT:

- Writing Rubrics
- Presentation/oral rubrics
- Quizzes and Quarter Tests/Exams
- Homework, Seatwork, and Projects (30%)
- Tests and Quizzes (30%)
- Quarter Exam (30%)
- Deportment (10%)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Please always check Google Classroom for homework and announcements.

Homework Rules

- All assignments must be turned in on the day they are due.
- 1 day late = Minus 10%
- 2 days late = Only 60%
- 3+ days late = Project-I & Only 60%
- **If a student has been absent**, it is his/her duty to find out what work is due and hand it in.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:

Academic Dishonesty means employing a method or technique or engaging in conduct in an academic endeavor that contravenes the standards of ethical integrity expected at DIS.

Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to the following:

- Purposely incorporating the ideas, words of sentences, paragraphs, or parts thereof without appropriate acknowledgment and representing the product as one's work;
- Representing another's intellectual work, such as photographs, paintings, drawings, sculpture, research, or the like, as one's own, including failure to attribute content to an AI.
- Employing a tutor, using Artificial Intelligence without acknowledgment, getting a parent to write a paper or do an assignment, and paying for an essay to be written by someone else and presented as the student's work.
- Committing any act that a reasonable person would conclude, when informed of the evidence, to be a dishonest means of obtaining or attempting to obtain credit for academic work.

Any act of academic dishonesty will result in an automatic zero on the entire assignment/learning task.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

First Quarter Tentative Course Content

Week & Date	Topics / Projects / Assessments
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Week 1 Aug 11 - 14 4 Days of Class 11 ~ First Day / Orientation Day 14 ~ Opening Mass & Assumption of Our Lady 8:00	Into Literature - Unit 6 The Crucible -Course Introduction -Diagnostic Assessments - Unit 6 Introduction
Week 2 Aug 17 - 21 18 ~ St. Dominic Feast Day Celebration + Induction of Student Leaders	Into Literature - Unit 6 The Crucible The Crucible: Act I Analyze Characters and plot Grammar – Punctuation: colons & semi-colons Writing – YSC Introduction
Week 3 Aug 24 - 28	Into Literature - Unit 6 The Crucible The Crucible: Act I Analyze Characters and plot Analyze literary devices Analyze universal themes Grammar – Punctuation: dashes / parentheses Writing – YSC Script Writing
Week 4 Aug 31 - Sep 4	Into Literature - Unit 6 The Crucible The Crucible: Act II & III Analyze Character development and plot Analyze literary devices Analyze universal themes Cite evidence to make inferences and draw conclusions Grammar – Varied sentence structure Writing – YSC Script Writing
Week 5 Sep 7 - 11 7 ~ Mass & Birthday Mother Mary & VIP Induction	Into Literature - Unit 6 The Crucible The Crucible: Act II & III Analyze characters' actions and motivations Discuss contrasts and contradictions Analyze characters' internal conflict Grammar – Imperative Mood Writing – YSC Script Writing
Week 6 Sep 14 - 18	Into Literature - Unit 6 The Crucible The Crucible: Act IV Analyze Character development and plot Analyze literary devices Determine the meaning of idioms Analyze universal themes Grammar – Transitions Writing – YSC Script Writing

Week 7 Sep 21 - 25 21 - Teacher's Day / Peace Day Activities 22-24 ~ Pre-exam Days 25 ~ Moon Festival	Into Literature - Unit 6 The Crucible The Crucible: Act IV Analyze Character development and plot Analyze literary devices Determine the meaning of idioms Analyze universal themes Grammar – Review Writing – YSC Script Writing
Week 8 Sep 29 - Oct 2 <u>2 Days of Class</u> 28 ~ Teacher's Day 1-2 ~ Q1 Exams	Exam Prep. & Review Exam
Week 9 Oct 5 - 9 <u>4 Days / No Classes</u> 5-8 ~ Teacher's Conf. & Mass 9 ~ Double Ten	No Classes

Second Quarter Tentative Course Content

Week & Date	Topics / Projects / Assessments
Week 1 (10) Oct 12 - 16 12 ~ Second Quarter Begins	Into Literature - Unit 4 Introduction & Declaration of Sentiments Analyze Rhetoric Evaluate Arguments Grammar – Modifiers I Writing – Argument YSC Rehearsals
Week 2 (11) Oct 19 - 23 24 – Book Fair	Into Literature - Unit 4 Declaration of Sentiments Analyze Rhetoric Evaluate Arguments Grammar – Modifiers II Writing – Argument YSC Rehearsals
Week 3 (12) Oct 26 - 30 <u>4 Days of Class</u> 26 – Retrocession Day	Into Literature - Unit 4 Declaration of Sentiments Analyze Rhetoric Evaluate Arguments Grammar – Parallel Structure Writing – Argument YSC Rehearsals
Week 4 (13) Nov 2 - 6 2 – All Souls' Day Mass	Into Literature – Unit 4 Speech to the American Equal Rights Association Analyze Rhetoric

	Evaluate Arguments Compare Arguments Grammar – Agreement I Writing – Argument YSC Rehearsals
Week 5 (14) Nov 9 - 13	Into Literature – Unit 4 Speech to the American Equal Rights Association Analyze Rhetoric Evaluate Arguments Compare Arguments Grammar – Agreement II Writing – Argument YSC Rehearsals
Week 6 (15) Nov 16 - 20 20 - YSC Contest	Into Literature – Unit 4 Runagate Runagate Poetic Devices Identify the theme(s) Analyze the structure, language, and meaning of the poem Grammar – Idioms Writing – Argument YSC Rehearsals
Week 7 (16) Nov 23 - 27 24-26 ~ Pre-Exam Day	Into Literature – Unit 4 Runagate Runagate Poetic Devices Identify the theme(s) Analyze the structure, language, and meaning of the poem Grammar – Noun Clauses Writing – Argument
Week 8 (17) Nov 30 - Dec 4	Exam Prep. & Review
Week 9 (18) Dec 7 - Dec 11 <u>2 Days of Class</u> 8 - Foundation Day (Whole Day) 10-11 ~ Q2 Exams	Exam Prep. & Review Exam
<i>Dec 14 to Jan 1 Christmas Break</i>	

Third Quarter Tentative Course Content

Week & Date	Topics / Projects / Assessments
Week 1 (19)	Into Literature – Unit 3 The Individual and Society

Jan 4 - Jan 8 <u>4 Days of Class</u> 4 ~ Record Day 5 ~ Third Quarter Begins 8 ~ New Year Mass	Reflect on essential questions Into Literature – Unit 3 from Last Child in the Woods Summarize main ideas Analyze Style Grammar – The Phrase I Writing – Literary Analysis
Week 2 (20) Jan 11 - Jan 15	Into Literature – Unit 3 from Last Child in the Woods Summarize main ideas Analyze Style Determine author's perspective Grammar – The Phrase II Writing – Literary Analysis
Week 3 (21) Jan 18 - Jan 22	Into Literature – Unit 3 from Walden Summarize main ideas Analyze Style Determine author's perspective Compare and Contrast main ideas Grammar – Adjective Clauses Writing – Literary Analysis
Week 4 (22) Jan 25 - Jan 29 28 ~ Feast Day of St. Thomas	Into Literature – Unit 3 from Walden Summarize main ideas Analyze Style Determine author's perspective Compare and Contrast main ideas Grammar – Adjective Clauses Writing – Literary Analysis
Week 5 (23) Feb 1 - Feb 5 <u>3 Days of Class</u> 1 ~ CNY Celebration	Into Literature – Unit 3 In the Season of Change Analyze Figurative Language Analyze Structure Analyze Theme Grammar – Active and Passive Voice Writing – Literary Analysis
<i>February 4 to 12 Chinese New Year Holiday</i>	
Week 6 (24) Feb 15 - Feb 19 House Valentine's Mini Fair	Into Literature – Unit 3 Poems by Emily Dickinson Analyze Figurative Language Analyze Structure Analyze Theme Grammar – Effective Sentences Writing – Literary Analysis
Week 7 (25)	Into Literature – Unit 3 Poems by Emily Dickinson Analyze Figurative Language

Feb 22 - Feb 26 IOWA Assessments	Analyze Structure Analyze Theme Grammar – Effective Sentences Writing – Literary Analysis
Week 8 (26) Mar 1 - Mar 5 <u>4 Days of Class</u> 1 ~ Memorial Day Holiday 2- 4 ~ Pre-Exam Days	Into Literature – Unit 3 The Minister's Black Veil Analyze Symbols Analyze Setting Grammar – Review Writing – Literary Analysis
Week 9 (27) Mar 8 - Mar 12 <u>4 Days of Class</u> 13 – Q3 Exams	Into Literature – Unit 3 The Minister's Black Veil Analyze Symbols Analyze Setting Connotation and Denotation Analyze and Synthesize Themes Grammar – Review Writing – Literary Analysis
Week 10 (28) Mar 15 - Mar 19	Exam Prep. & Review
Week 11 (29) Mar 22- Mar 26 <u>1 Day of Class</u> 23 - 24 – Q3 Exams	Exam Prep. & Review Exam
<i>March 25 to April 2 Easter & Spring Break</i>	

Fourth Quarter Tentative Course Content

Week & Date	Topics / Projects / Assessments
Week 1 (30) Apr 5 - Apr 9 <u>3 Days of Class</u> 5 - 6 ~ Tomb Sweeping 20 ~ Spring Fair	Into Literature – Unit 2 Building a Democracy Into Literature – Unit 2 Thomas Jefferson: The Best of Enemies Analyze Ideas and Events Analyze Structure Grammar – Hyphens Writing – Research Report
Week 2 (31) Apr 12 - Apr 16	Into Literature – Unit 2 Thomas Jefferson: The Best of Enemies Analyze Ideas and Events Analyze Structure Into Literature – Unit 2 The Declaration of Independence Analyze rhetoric and tone Analyze Structure Identify the central idea

	Grammar – Formal English and Contested Usage Writing – Research Report
Week 3 (32) Apr 19 - Apr 23 AP Mock Exams	Into Literature – Unit 2 The Declaration of Independence Analyze rhetoric and tone Analyze Structure Identify the central idea Determine the meaning of words and phrases Grammar – Grammar, Mechanics, and Usage Writing – Research Report
Week 4 (33) Apr 26 - Apr 30 4 Days of Class 27 - 29 ~ Pre-Exam Days Class Photo Taking 30 ~ Labor Day Holiday	Into Literature – Unit 2 On Being Brought from Africa to America Analyze Poetic Devices Analyze Themes Grammar – Grammar, Mechanics, and Usage Writing – Research Report
Week 5 (34) May 3 - May 7 3 – May Crowning & Mother's Day Celebration AP Exams	Into Literature – Unit 2 On Being Brought from Africa to America Analyze Poetic Devices Analyze Themes Grammar – Grammar, Mechanics, and Usage Writing – Research Report Exam Prep. & Review
Week 6 (35) May 10 - May 14 4 Days of Class 12-13 ~ Q4 Exam 14 ~ Record Day AP Exams	Exam Prep. & Review Exam
Week 7 (36) May 17 - May 21 17 ~ Baccalaureate Mass 17 – 21 ~ WIDA Testing 19 ~ House Sports Day 20 ~ High School Field Trip 21 ~ House Culminating Activity	School Activities
Week 8 (37) May 24 - May 28 24 ~ MS & HS Sports Day 26~ Gr 8 and Gr 12 Graduation 27 ~ Pre-K, Gr. 1-4, 6 & 7, 9-11 Recognition 28~ Last Day of School for Students	School Activities