**IB Language and Literature SL Year 2**

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**I. Course Summary**

This Language and Literature course introduces the critical study and interpretation of written and spoken texts from a wide range of literary and non-literary genres. The formal analysis of texts is supplemented by awareness that meaning is not fixed but can change in respect to contexts of production and consumption.

The course is organized into four parts (two completed in the first year, two completed in the second year), each focused on the study of either literary or non-literary texts. Together, the four parts of the course allow the student to explore language through its cultural development and use, its media forms and functions, and its literature. Students develop skills of literary and textual analysis, and also the ability to present their ideas effectively. A key aim is the development of critical literacy.

**II. IB SL Language and Literature Aims**

IB aims to develop students with the following skills:

* a personal appreciation of language and literature
* skills in literary criticism using a range of texts from different periods, styles and genres
* an understanding of the formal, stylistic and aesthetic qualities of texts
* strong powers of expression, both written and oral
* an appreciation of cultural differences in perspective
* an understanding of how language challenges and sustains ways of thinking.

While we will use IB rubrics throughout the course, when these assessments will be counted toward students’ grades in the class, they will be converted to a standard A, B, C, D, N scale and the point value will appear on the rubric. Parents & guardians, please ask your student to share their rubrics with you.

**III. Texts**

Through the exploration of specific texts and writing workshops, students will learn about the development of character, the importance of place in establishing identity, issues of social justice from both historical and ethical perspectives, dystopian societies, and individual rights and social order.  These topics are addressed in novels (*The Things They Carried*  by Tim O’Brien, *My Name is Asher Lev* by Chaim Potok, *Angela’s Ashes* by Frank McCourt), plays (*Hamlet* by William Shakespeare and *A Raisin in the Sun* by Lorraine Hansberry), as well as various poems, short stories, news articles, advertisements, music videos, historical documents, and student-selected works.

**IV. Methods of Assessment**

This course is a two-year program, separated into four parts. Students have completed parts 1 and 4 during 11th grade and will complete parts 2 and 3 in 12th grade. Assignments were specially designed during the first year of the program to not only prepare students for the first year of exams but also to prepare students for the second year of assessments. We will complete an assortment of tasks to prepare for all of this testing. Some assignments will closely resemble IB exams; others will provide more focused opportunities to sharpen individual skills required for the exams.

IB Language and Literature Part 1 Assessments:

Written Task One (WT or WT1)

* Completed during Year 1

Further Oral Activity (FOA)

* One FOA completed during Year 1

IB Language and Literature Part 4 Assessments:

Individual Oral Commentary (IOC) was completed during 1st year

**Year 2 (12th grade)**

IB Language and Literature Part 2 & 3 Assessments:

Paper 1

* + You are provided two previously unseen texts, 1-2 pages in length
  + Choose one of those texts to write a commentary
  + You have 1.5 hours to complete the commentary
  + Paper 1 counts as 25 % of the final IB grade.

Paper 2

* + You are provided six questions to choose from
  + Your essay must answer one question in relation to both literary texts that were studied for Part 3
  + You have 1.5 hours to complete the essay
  + Paper 2 counts for 25 % of final IB grade

Please also see Highland Park Grading and Assessment Policy on the Highland Park Senior High Webpage for additional information about assessment.

**V. Additional Course Requirements and Resources**

**Choice Reading Assignment**

Because reading what you like is important, each quarter you will be expected to read literature of your own choosing (magazines, comics, newspapers, and assigned reading from this or any other class does not count).  There will be time set aside in class each week for you to read your own book, but outside reading will also be necessary to reach the quarterly goal of 501 pages. Each time you finish a book, you need to log a report to receive credit by completing the assignment in Schoology. You need to fill out a new assignment for EVERY BOOK you finish reading. We will add the page count for ALL BOOKS LOGGED together for your final score. This assignment is worth 10 summative points per quarter. Points break down as follows:

501+ pages = 10 points 351-400 pages = 8.5 points 201-250 pages = 7 points

451-500 pages = 9.5 points 301-350 pages = 8 points 151-200 pages = 6.5 points

401-450 pages = 9 points 251-300 pages = 7.5 points 101-150 pages = 6 points

0 - 100 pages = 0 points

**Class Calendar**

It is the responsibility of every student to check schoology for any missed classes and / or assignments, whether excused or unexcused.  Schoology will be updated daily with any links used, handouts, or assignments given. Parents are also invited to check regularly to help their student stay on track.

**VI. Class Expectations**

Come on time and be prepared to work!  This includes having all of your materials with you and organized.

Group work: Much work will be done in groups. Grades will be handed out as group grades (unless I have told you otherwise). If someone in the group is not pulling their own weight then you need to let me know before an assignment or project is completed, as I will not change grades after the fact.

Late work: if you have a legitimate reason that you will not be able to complete an assignment on time (a family emergency or illness), please communicate your need for an extension BEFORE THE WORK IS DUE.

Test and quiz policy: Talking, passing notes, and “sign language” of any kind will not be tolerated until ALL testing is over. If you finish before your peers, you may sit quietly and read your Choice book. If you have a question during the test, raise your hand. Any attempt to cheat during any testing situation will result in a zero with no make-up.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism means copying from another source without giving that source credit. This includes your best friend, a book, the Internet, etc. Simply changing a few words does not mean you have not plagiarized. Coincidences can happen, but they do not happen throughout an entire paper. If you are caught plagiarizing you will be given a zero with no make-up. Please consult the HPSH Grading & Assessment Policy for further information.

Cell Phones, MP3 Players/ iPods, or other electronic devices are already banned according to Highland Park Senior High’s rules. Unless otherwise directed, they should not be seen or heard during class. The new cell phone policy is as follows:

1. Cell phones are not allowed to be used in classrooms.

2. They are to remain at home, or locked in lockers. If students choose to carry their phones, they must be completely off--not even on vibrate during class time.

3. Failure to follow this policy will result in disciplinary action which may include exclusion from class time and possible dismissal from school. Parents/guardians will be informed when violations occur.

The golden rule is RESPECT. Be polite. Treat your classmates (and teacher) with the same respect you would like to receive. Your fellow peers and I deserve respect all the time. Raise your hand if you have something to say. Please do not interrupt others. If someone is talking, you’re listening. Sarcasm and light-hearted jokes are always welcome in my classroom. I can take a joke. Some people cannot. Respect that. Our classroom is a community.

Let’s make it the best it can be. I look forward to a GREAT year!