

Still Waters Christian Fellowship Academy

26-27 High School Literary Analysis Course

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Course Overview:

This course will begin with several weeks in *Teaching the Classics* where students will gain a better understanding of the elements in a story. We will study style, context, setting, characters, conflict, plot, and theme. Then the next few weeks we will go through “*A CiRCE Guide to Reading*,” which we will read and discuss together in class. Students will choose an approved “classic” to read and practice the tools learned in the reading guide. I will include writing assignments in the first semester. Hopefully by the end of the semester or at the beginning of 2nd semester we will begin *The Windows to the World* which is an introduction to literary analysis for High School students. They will learn how to read, infer, analyze, and write about literature. *Windows to the World* will help students recognize the author’s worldview and practice discernment while reading many short stories and poems. Note on Syllabus: every year I plan out my syllabus and usually we are not able to get to everything. This year’s syllabus contains more white space for filling in as we go to give us freedom to stay some places a little longer and move more quickly through other places depending on the student’s needs.

Course Topics:

How to Read a Book

Learning the elements of a story

Analytical techniques

- Annotating
- Inference
- Outlining for analytical writing
- Developing discernment through a Christian worldview

Literary Elements

- Plot and structure
- Characters
- Theme
- Setting

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- Point of View

Literary Devices (Tools)

- Allusions
- Parallelism
- Euphemism
- Symbolism
- Anaphora and Epistrophe
- Imagery
- Irony

Writing Genres

- Analytical Essays
- Reflective Journals
- Stories
- Reflective Narrative Essays

Materials Needed:

A “*Classic work*” approved by Ms. Kim, they must be able to write and highlight in this book

Set of 5 highlighters in Pink, Green, Orange, Yellow, and Blue

A *CiRCE Guide to Reading* Your best option is to order from the CiRCE Institute, I do have a few extra copies I will sell for \$15 on a first come first serve basis.

Windows to the World Student Book

Students will need a 1” 3 ring binder with 5 pocket tabs and notebook paper to keep their syllabus, writing, worksheets, short stories, and journal entries.

I will provide the *Teaching the Classics* Material

Expectations: after several years of teaching High Schoolers, these are the things that have become noticeably vital for classroom community success. They are much more independent now but they still need mom or dad checking in on them. Please read and discuss with your child how important these things are to me and to them and most importantly to our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ!

- Parents, please communicate with me your expectations for your child in this class, you are their primary teacher, but please don’t enroll them if you do not expect

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them to do a large portion of the assignments because they will treat our precious class time as a space filler. Our class time is supposed to be for learning together and mutual participation, it's important that we have that kind of atmosphere.

- Students must come to class with all their materials and be prepared to participate in class. Too often over the years students will not bring all the materials we are using and it really puts a damper on being able to engage with each other and the material.
- No cell phones out during class or they will be taken away and put in timeout.
- Students need to take responsibility for their actions, no excuses or blaming others for failing to be prepared or not finishing assignments.
- If there are any changes in what parents are expecting parents need to communicate with me first, not students.
- No sleeping in class, I have a lot of empathy for tired students and in my longer classes I even allowed students to doze off to my shame, if I notice students are getting sleepy I will break and have us do some exercises, I will have snacks, and they should have water with them.
- I don't expect perfection but I do expect students to do their best with excellence, I meet my students where they are so I'm not going to ask them to do things they are not yet capable of.
- In the spirit of valuing our Christian community I expect everyone to love each other, putting others above themselves and to practice Christian virtue. Patience, kindness, goodness, excellence, justice, etc.
- I will communicate at least quarterly on your child's progress, habits, and performance in my class and sooner if there is an issue.