

Course Introduction

Welcome! This honors-level course will look at the way that language reinforces ideology and theme. Based on foundational work in grammar, mechanics, syntax, and usage in addition to newly introduced rhetoric, students will encounter works rich in style. Students will analyze through essays focusing on that form and style, and they will incorporate any rhetoric, grammar, vocabulary, or philosophy learned. Students will also prepare oral interpretations to teach not only public speaking but also effective analysis. All this is done within the context of honoring Christ as Lord, his Word as truth.

Course Description

This honors-level course focuses on the beauty of language and how grammar, syntax, and rhetoric can reinforce ideology and theme. Students will use the language skills acquired in Grammar and Composition combined with 23 new rhetorical strategies to analyze the stylistic choices of authors—how anadiplosis can reflect hesitation, how passive voice can be purposefully obscure, how caesura and end-stops can establish a poem’s rhythm. Writing assignments will focus on literary explication of authors’ works but will also require students to be purposeful about their own stylistic choices. Students will discuss literature through the window of eight major ideologies (anthropology, epistemology, cosmology, teleology, theology, sociology, axiology, soteriology) in order to better understand major worldviews while beginning to define their own personal perspectives.

This is a yearlong course consisting of 16 units. Upon successful completion students will receive 1 credit towards high school graduation.

Purpose of the Course

To use previously learned grammar concepts with stylistic intentionality, expand academic vocabulary while better understanding the relationship between diction choice and connotation, present a sustained case in a readable style, develop a broader understanding of classical philosophical perspectives, and recognize point-of-view and worldview in writing, including one’s own.

Course Overview

Semester 1

- Grammar Review and Animal Farm
- Introduction to Philosophy
- Philosophy, Part I

- Philosophy, Part II
- The Picture of Dorian Gray
- Lord of the Flies
- Presently Golding

Semester 2

- Introduction to Reading Poetry
- Validus Camena Part 1: Reading and Paraphrasing
- Validus and Camena Part 2: Analyzing and Explicating
- Validus and Camena Part 3
- Culminating Poetry Defense
- Ethics: Bentham and Kant
- Macbeth Acts I-II
- Macbeth Acts III-V
- Final Assessment

Required Course Materials

Please access the list of course materials from the OC Online book ordering system and order your materials as soon as possible. Oftentimes, course materials are on back order and you may experience a delay in receiving them, causing students to fall behind in their online coursework. When ordering used or rented materials, be careful that online access codes are also current.

Methods of Evaluation

- Tests 15%
 - Tests will largely be writing that will then assess your ability to analyze, use grammar and rhetoric well, and incorporate a college-bound vocabulary. You will also have spoken presentations as tests.
- Quizzes 10%
 - Quizzes on rhetoric, grammar, and vocabulary will be given regularly.
- Participation 10%
 - Discussion posts and live classes
- Assignments 40%
 - Assignments include discussions, papers, writing practice, exercises, and oral presentations. You will need to be current on reading to do well on any assignment. For papers, it is in your best interest to send drafts to your instructor and rewrite and revise, even without prompting.

- Final Assessment 25%
 - A culminating set of performance tasks.

Additional Course Information

Detailed information regarding OC Online policies on proctored final exams, grading policy, late/missing assignment policy, weekly live sessions, course expectations, and additional school policies can be found on the website.