Literary Studies 10 – Course Outline (Spring 2025)



Course Description

Literary Studies 10 is a reading- and thinking-intensive course designed to help students explore literature as a cultural, philosophical, and personal practice. Through novels, short stories, poetry, origin myths, music, and AI-generated work, students will engage deeply with literary texts while developing their voice, interpretive skill, and critical thinking. This course treats literature not as static content to be memorized, but as a living dialogue between writer and reader—between text and world. Students will participate in Socratic discussions, comparative analysis, visual and creative projects, and a final AI-supported poetry exhibition. The First Peoples Principles of Learning (FPPL) ground the course's reflective and respectful classroom culture.

Units of Study

Unit 1: Critical Thinking & Dystopian Fiction

Students explore *The Hunger Games* as an entry point into literary analysis and critical thinking, using themes like power, control, and identity to frame class discussion and build analytical habits.

Unit 2: Essay Writing & Socratic Dialogue

Using short fiction like "The Lottery" and "There Will Come Soft Rains," students write a literary essay and defend their thesis in a Socratic dialogue, practicing structured argument, quotation integration, and oral reasoning.

Unit 3: Myths and Meaning-Making

Students research and reinterpret global creation myths to explore how stories help societies confront the unknown, culminating in an Al-assisted visual reinterpretation of a mythic moment.

Unit 4: Poetry, Music, and Personal Voice

Students engage with poems and lyrics from diverse voices to unpack tone, imagery, and personal meaning, ending with an original Al-generated poem shared anonymously with the school community.

Evaluation

Literary quizzes (weeks 3 & 5)	10%
Essay Draft + Socratic Defense	20%
Origin Myth + Visual Response	10%
Poetry Responses (10 mini-reflections)	10%
Final AI Poem + Presentation	20%
Participation & Discussion	10%
Final Exam (skills-based)	20%
Total	100%

Final Exam Overview

The final exam will focus on **skill application and critical engagement** with texts studied throughout the semester. It will include:

- Literary terms and device identification: Students will define and recognize key terms (e.g., tone, imagery, symbolism, irony) used in class.
- Close reading and annotation: Students will analyze a short passage (likely a poem or excerpt from *The Hunger Games*), identifying devices and explaining their significance.
- **Personal reflection**: Students will respond to a visual prompt—possibly AI-generated or traditional art—making connections to course themes (e.g., identity, voice, power, or myth) and articulating their own perspective.

The emphasis will be on **thoughtful interpretation**, **clarity of expression**, **and the ability to apply what you've learned**, not rote memorization. A study guide will be provided in advance.

Al Use Policy

AI tools (like ChatGPT or Gemini) may be used with teacher guidance for brainstorming, clarification, visual generation, and prompt engineering—but never as a replacement for student thinking. Final essays, reflections, and poetry must demonstrate student originality and voice. Students will be assessed on their ability to use AI as a thinking partner, not a shortcut.

First Peoples Principles of Learning

This course honors the FPPL by incorporating origin myths, story-based learning, and respectful discussion of diverse perspectives. Students explore how stories carry values, preserve identity, and offer cultural continuity—while developing their own sense of voice and belonging.