

## Course Syllabus for Sophomore English (World Literature)

**Description:** Sophomore English will include a review of basic grammar principles with an emphasis on applying these principles to writing. Much of the year will be focused on an introduction to the literature of the world, from ancient times to modern. Vocabulary and spelling lists are tested bi-weekly. In addition to classroom reading, each student is expected to read and write a report on a book from the approved list each quarter.

### Goals:

Grammar review will keep language abilities sharp and enhance writing.

Study of literature on a more advanced level is built on by focusing on a culture, and how its philosophies affected style, content, and moral tone, with the goal of understanding man's thinking and developing discernment of literature and the values it teaches.

Vocabulary and spelling will broaden and hone language capabilities.

**Textbooks:** *Grammar and Composition IV* (A Beka), *Masterpieces from World Literature* (A Beka), *The Complete Works of Sophocles* (Bantam)

**Assignments:** Grammar units will include daily homework exercises, with a few scattered quizzes before testing. Literature assignments will be checked daily by way of a 5-point quiz, given before any discussion has occurred. Testing will cover class discussion/notes. Vocabulary/Spelling lists will be sent home for completion by Thursday, to be quizzed Friday (on a bi-weekly basis). After three lists have been completed, a review test will be given in place of the next scheduled quiz. Additional projects will be assigned within the unit, usually accompanied by a separate handout.

### Units:

GRAMMAR UNIT ONE: Nouns and Pronouns

Subject-verb agreement

Gerunds and infinitives

Noun clauses

Pronoun-antecedent Agreement

Pronoun Reference

Pronoun Case

LITERATURE UNIT ONE: Greeks

*The Epic of Gilgamesh*

*The Iliad*

*The Odyssey*

The Philosophers: Socrates, Plato, Aristotle

Aesop

“Alexander the Great” from Plutarch’s *Lives*

GRAMMAR UNIT TWO: Nouns

Commas

Semicolons and Colons

Italics

Hyphens

Quotation Marks

Apostrophes

Dashes and Parentheses

LITERATURE UNIT TWO: Sophocles

*Oedipus Rex*

*Antigone*

GRAMMAR UNIT THREE: Writing

Sentence Shifts

Parallelism

Conciseness

Subordination

Voice and Pronoun Reference

Outlining

The Paragraph

LITERATURE UNIT THREE: Romans, Italians

*The Metamorphoses*

*The Aeneid*

“The Persecution of Christians” from Foxe’s *Book of Martyrs*

*The Divine Comedy*

*The Decameron*

Oral Report: Greek/Roman gods and goddesses

LITERATURE UNIT FOUR: *Julius Caesar*

Read Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*

Memorize famous lines from the play

LITERATURE UNIT FIVE: The Renaissance

*Don Quixote*

*Discourse on Method*

*Paradise Lost*

*Pilgrim's Progress*

*Tartuffe*

LITERATURE UNIT SIX: *Silas Marner*

Read George Eliot's novel, *Silas Marner*

Write an evaluative essay of the novel on a chosen topic

LITERATURE UNIT SEVEN: The Nineteenth Century

"The Creed of the Savoyard Priest" and "The Stolen Ribbon"

*Faust*

*Moby Dick*

*The Brothers Karamazov*

The Grimm brothers