

### *Journeying into Distant Lands and Diverse Places*

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**Tuition:**        \$352.00

**Copy fee:**       \$25.00

Average study time for this class: 6 hours per week

#### **OVERVIEW:**

The epic journey is one of the great themes of literature. By way of historical novels, accounts of pilgrimage, fantastic voyages, and dramatic accounts of escape, we read about people journeying into new lands and life experiences. And of course, literature itself is a way in which we as readers journey into landscapes we have not previously encountered. This course, designed to expand our world of experience, includes a diverse sampling of literary works. Join us in these literary excursions around the world, across cultures, and through time and space.

This course is intended to develop students as sensitive readers, critical thinkers, and effective writers. We will take skills learned previously and continue to hone them by reading engaging texts and responding to them in writing. A variety of literary themes will challenge students to broaden their understanding of life around the world, across time, and within the human heart, and will sharpen their critical thinking abilities. Students will respond to texts through a range of writing assignments, some reflective (journals), some creative (poetry or stories), some expository (in-class presentations), and some analytic (paragraphs and full essays), which will emphasize clear, cohesive, and well-developed communication skills.

#### **COURSE DESIGN:**

This course will have some online components. Details will be available at the Walk-Through.

#### **CLASS MATERIALS:**

There is no textbook for this course, but instead, a reading list has been provided. Students need to have access to all books on the list. Planning ahead is essential! Please feel free to express any questions or concerns about reading materials directly to the tutor.

## BOOK LIST

We will explore a wide variety of world literature in this course. Each student should plan to buy or borrow a personal copy of each novel on the reading list, unless the tutor indicates otherwise. Buying used books is an excellent choice. Borrowing from the library or a friend is also acceptable, as long as the student has an effective way to annotate in the borrowed text (sticky note flags or note cards work well). In most cases, the unabridged version is the one to choose. Some of the selections have been translated from other languages, and choosing the same translation makes class reading simpler. **In cases where a particular version/translation of a book is required, an ISBN number for the chosen edition is provided.** Listening to audiobooks is an acceptable way to read these novels. If a student chooses to listen to a novel, they should still follow along in the actual text and bring a paper copy of the book to class. (Electronic versions make essay writing extremely challenging.)

**Reading List** - Please pay special attention to ordering information below:

*Momo* - Michael Ende - (*This title will be provided by the tutor.*)

*Cyrano de Bergerac* - Edmond Rostand (**ISBN-10:** 0553213601 or **ISBN-13:** 978-0553213607)

Poetry (provided by tutor)

*Trouble* - Gary D. Schmidt

*Breadwinner* - Deborah Ellis

Non-fiction outside reading (students choose from a list of non-fiction stories for a presentation)

*The Reason for Crows* - Diane Glancy - (*This title will be provided by the tutor.*)

*Don Quixote* - Miguel de Cervantes (**abridged:** **ISBN-10:** 0451532295 or **ISBN-13:** 978-0451532299)

- \*NOTE - the version of *Don Quixote* we use for this class is a very specific abridged version! Use the ISBN provided to avoid major issues with reading/writing assignments.)

*Out of the Silent Planet* - C.S. Lewis

African American poetry and slave song (provided by tutor)

African American speeches - (provided by tutor)

*The Glory Field* - Walter Dean Myers

*Enchantress from the Stars* - Sylvia Engdahl

*The Good Earth* - Pearl S. Buck

*The Girl who Circumnavigated Fairyland in a Ship of her Own Making* - Catherynne M. Valente

Middle Eastern folktales (provided by tutor)

*The Fifth Mountain* - Paulo Coelho

## SUMMER READING

There will be required reading over the summer before class begins. Everyone will read *The Letter for the King* by Tonke Dragt. There will be a creative assignment to complete over the summer, due on Week One. Details regarding the creative assignment will be sent to those signed up for the class at the end of the present school year.

## Additional Writing Lab

Not required, but highly encouraged

**Tuition:** \$200.00 for full year; \$10 drop-in fee

### LAB DESCRIPTION

Students may choose to participate in a writing lab that meets at a time apart from weekly class time. Lab time offers students writing instruction in a small group setting. During this time students will receive specific instruction on how to complete the writing assignments and individualized feedback on how to improve writing skills. Lab times will be determined according to student schedules and tutor availability.

### COURSE TOPICS

Topics covered during lab hours will vary according to student need, but will likely include:

- Responding to a writing prompt - including pre-writing and organization of ideas
- Review of MLA format, citations, and Works Cited
- Review of literary analysis
- Analysis paragraph format, including the integration and in-text citation of quotes
- Five-paragraph essay format - including thesis statements, introductions, and conclusions
- Poetry explication and correct citation
- Developing and executing a research presentation
- Editing skills - including relevant grammar and punctuation rules
- Clear, concise writing and revising skills