

Reading Fiction I

Banned Books English Elective

Course Description:

We need fiction. Through novels and stories we learn how the world works. Through fiction you come to understand your own life and the lives of others. Sometimes fiction is dangerous. Philosopher Henry David Thoreau wrote, "Many a man has dated a new era in his life from the reading of a book". If books were safe, people would not ban them. In this course you will choose novels to read from a list of banned books. As you read, think about why society might fear what is written in these books.

Course Outline:

Book 1—choose from list

Book 2—choose from list

Book 3—choose from list

Book 4—choose from list

For each book there are five assignments (below):

Statement of Purpose

Reading Journal (dates and progress tracking)

Reading Response

- Setting
- Character
- Point of View
- Literary Devices
- Style
- Theme
- Plot

Discussion Board posting reviews of your book

Advertisement (a PowerPoint slide posted in the Discussion Board)

Course Objectives:

READING - Students will:

- Understand and use different skills and strategies to read
- Understand the meaning of what is read
- Read different materials for a variety of purpose
- Set goals and evaluate progress to improve reading
- Use the Internet to gain useful information

WRITING - Students will:

- Understand and use a writing process
 - Write in a variety of forms for different audiences and purposes
 - Write clearly and effectively
 - Analyze and evaluate the effectiveness of written work
 - Develop a sense of class membership, using discussion boards and e-mail to communicate with teacher and classmate
-

Number/Description of Projects, Exams, Activities, etc:

- **16 Activities** – Within each of the units, students must complete formative activities. When completed, the activities provide feedback to students on ways to improve learning for better understanding.
- **4 Journal Discussion Assignments** – At the end of each of the units, students will complete a journal assignment. The teacher and other students read each journal assignment and provides and feedback.
- **4 Presentations** – Students use the writing process to advertise each novel, create ONE PowerPoint Slide to include:

TITLE
AUTHOR
FAMILIAR QUOTATION
REVIEW
GRAPHIC

Materials: All course materials have been approved for district use.

Timelines & Methods for evaluating student progress: Students are expected to log in daily and submit assignments on a weekly basis. Progress will be evaluated each month based progress towards assignment completion of assignments.

This course meets state and district **graduation requirements** in the area of English.

Weekly contact will be conducted through a submitted assignment with instructor feedback. Students who do not submit an assignment are expected to email or call his/her instructor.

Each student is expected to spend a **minimum of five hours per week** on this course. Additional hours may be necessary to complete the course successfully.