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Room 110/109

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Syllabus posted Tuesdays (technology willing) at <http://manila.mdihs.u98.k12.me.us/mdihsrleamon/>

Global Literacies Course Overview

Course Description:

Welcome to Global Literacies: Integrated Freshman Studies, a two-credit interdisciplinary course designed to ensure rigor, equity, and personalization and address the performance indicators from the English Language Arts and Social Studies learning areas. While units of study are integrated, you will learn critical English and Social Studies knowledge and skills while exploring the essential questions: *Who am I, and what is my place in the world? How can I best understand other people, places and times? How do I impact the world?*

Essential knowledge and skills you will learn include:

Social Studies: Grade-level appropriate economics, geography, and history with emphasis on comprehension, analysis and research.

English: Exploration of a wide range of literary works (novels, plays, poems, short stories, essays, memoirs, literary criticism, as well as informational texts) with a focus on understanding the writer's craft and studying literary elements; tools to extract meaning from words and enhance language acquisition; instruction and practice in writing effective narration and exposition for a wide range of audiences.

Throughout this class, you will be offered a variety of pathways for academic success including support opportunities, challenge options, group and individual experiences. Expect assignments outside of class several times each week. For your final assessment in Global Literacies, you will participate in a "Solutions Fair," when you, as a team member or by yourself, will implement or plan a service-learning project through identifying, researching, comprehending, resolving, and presenting a local or global issue of your choice.

Texts:

The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian by Sherman Alexie

Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck

Romeo and Juliet OR Much Ado About Nothing OR Julius Caesar by William Shakespeare

Selected short stories, poems, memoirs, and essays

Selections from World Cultures: a Global Mosaic (Prentice Hall Publication)

Student-chosen literature: Independent Reading Program (IRP)

Reading group choices TBA

In addition, you will practice the Daily Oral Language Program to improve your grammar and usage skills, expand your vocabulary and knowledge of word origins via weekly vocabulary lists, and explore local, national, and international issues via current events work.

Because Global Literacies includes a heterogeneous group of students with a variety of strengths and weaknesses, interests and abilities, most assignments are designed to meet a myriad of needs. For each unit, stretch options will be offered for those of you who are interested and willing to take on challenging assignments above and beyond the regular curriculum. **All** of you have the option of choosing to participate in these assignments. Assignments will be adjusted as needed for those who have an I.E.P. or a 504 Plan. Students and parents who feel that a learner's individual needs are not being met should contact the teachers as soon as possible to assure that daily activities and class assignments are challenging but educationally appropriate.

English Common Assessments Required for Graduation

Personal Narrative

Media Critique

Social Studies Common Assessments Required for Graduation

Map and Demographics Project

Foreign Policy Analysis