

The Center for Global Studies
World Literature II
Ms. Martinez
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Thematic Overview: While we will read works of literature from around the world, we will focus on the universal search for self. What is the self? Does culture define the self or does the self respond to some greater force? We will look at the role of imagination in the formation of self as well as the role of the child in developing the self. Many writers use the journey as a narrative structure that explores the evolution of the self. We will especially look at these journeys as allegories, stories made up of a network of symbols that mirror our journey through life. We will consider the role of culture in this life journey, how it shapes our point of view and our way of perceiving the world.

Literary Works:

Life of Pi by Yann Martel
The Alchemist by Paulo Coelho
The Little Prince by Antoine de Saint-Exupery
Catcher in the Rye by J.D. Salinger
Lord of the Flies by William Golding
Romeo and Juliet by William Shakespeare
Sound of Waves by Yukio Mishima
The Things They Carried by Tim O'Brien
The House on Mango Street by Sandra Cisneros
A Separate Peace by John Knowles

Films:

Pan's Labyrinth
Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon

Course of Study:

- All literature classes will read a variety of genres through novels, non-fiction works, plays, short stories, and poetry. Vocabulary study will come out of assigned texts.
- Writing assignments will take on the form of in-class responses, journals, narratives, and formal essays that include a research project. Clarity, coherence, voice, and mechanics are emphasized and reinforced. All essays will adhere to the MLA format.
- Creative projects will include poetry, memoir, script writing, art projects, presentations, skits, and other visual presentations related to a unit of study.
- Tests and quizzes are mainly short answer and essays, with an emphasis on the CAPT-related questions and SAT essay formats. Quizzes are worth half a test grade.

Assessment:

- **Writing Assignments: 20-30%**
- **Research Project: 10-20%**
- **Tests/Quizzes: 20-40%**

- **Class Participation/Presentations: 10-20%**
- **Homework: 10-20%**

Please Note: Sincerity, earnestness, and respect for becoming a life-long learner are qualities that are nurtured in our magnet school. There is no percentage that can be attached to these qualities, but they will influence your assessment throughout the school year, and more importantly, the value of these qualities will serve you throughout your life.