

## **Syllabus: Literature 5**

### **Course Description**

Intended for students in fifth grade, students will read great literature and continue to work on their phonics fundamentals and oral reading skills. Students will improve their reading skills through written and oral comprehension exercises. Their vocabulary will be expanded through the application of contextual clues, derivation of words from Latin roots, and use of the dictionary. Students will learn to apply a Christian worldview as they examine qualities of characters in stories and recognize those that are worth admiring. They will learn to identify different genres of literature as they read a variety of styles. And most importantly, they will continue to increase their love of literature. Recommended for grade 5. Homework will average 2 - 3 hours per week, depending on reading speed.

### **Attendance and Participation**

Both attendance and participation are vital parts of this course; therefore, students are required to attend class sessions and participate actively in discussions. Students are expected to view archives of any missed classes, and are responsible for obtaining any notes or assignments.

Students will be given quarterly grades for both participation and attendance:

- Fifteen percent of the final grade will be attributed to *relevant class participation*. This includes raising one's hand, commenting regularly via microphone/webcam, and using the chat box regularly to contribute to the academic conversation.
- Five percent of the final grade will be attributed to *class attendance*. Being present, being on time, and readiness for class are all factors to be considered in the class attendance grade. *Excused* absences will not detrimentally impact attendance grades.

Grading rubrics are located in the Course Documents folder in each course page.

### **Assignments & Tests**

Assignments will be posted weekly on the course page, in assignment sheets found in the Assignment folder, in the Materials tab. Parents are responsible for making sure that the student completes all reading, vocabulary and written comprehension assignments on time.

Reading: The students will need to keep up with reading assignments in order to participate in class discussion. Oral Reading: Oral reading will be an integral part of each class. In this non-stressful environment we will increase our ability to read with accuracy, fluency, expression, enunciation and projection, and observation of punctuation. Assessments will be ongoing throughout each

semester. Students need to bring their books to each class. Journals: Students will be asked to write short journal entries throughout the year. These entries will be shared during class time and will be counted as part of the participation grade. Comprehension Questions: Each semester, several sets of questions will be collected and graded; the other sets of questions will be checked in class. Students are expected to write their answers in complete sentences on all assignments. Online quizzes: Several times throughout the year, students will complete online quizzes over a particular reading, to help verify that students are keeping up with reading. Quizzes will be submitted prior to class start time, and will count as homework grades. Projects: Two graded projects will be given per semester. The projects will usually be of a creative, hands-on nature; however, the option of a written paper is always provided. Descriptions and due dates are given on the home page.

All assignments are due by 11:55pm ET on the due date. In lieu of a mid-term test, students will submit a book report during mid-term test week at the end of the first semester. In lieu of a final test, students will submit a dramatic recitation/ oral reading presentation during class the last week of the second semester.

### **Evaluation**

The final grade is determined on the following basis:

- |                                |     |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| ● Attendance                   | 5%  |
| ● Relevant Class Participation | 15% |
| ● Homework                     | 20% |
| ● Quizzes                      | 20% |
| ● Projects                     | 20% |
| ● Oral Reading                 | 20% |

### **Grading Scale**

The following grading scale will apply for all assignments and final grades. 100% – 90% = A; 89% - 80% = B; 79% - 70% = C; 69% - 60% = D; 59% - 50% = E; 49% - 40% = F. All grades are rounded to the nearest whole number.

### **Late Work**

If a student fails to submit any assessment by the due date, it is considered “late.”

- Assignments submitted 0-24 hours late will result in a 10 point reduction off earned grade.
- Assignments submitted 24-48 hours late will result in a 20 point reduction off earned grade.
- Assignments submitted 48-72 hours late will result in a 30 point reduction off earned grade.
- Assignments over 72 hours late will not be accepted and the student will receive a zero.

- Parent may request an extension from their child's teacher *prior to the due date* or in the case of an emergency.

While we love grace and the opportunity to exercise it, we also desire to instill a sound sense of responsibility in our students, hence these expectations pertaining to late work.

### **Exam/Test Retakes**

Any student may retake a failed assessment (except quizzes), but can score no higher than 70% on the retake. Retakes must be submitted within one week of the returned, failed test. If the retake is not submitted within one week, the original failing grade will stand.

### **Academic Dishonesty**

Cheating on any assignment is considered academic dishonesty. This includes plagiarism in any form. Cheating will be dealt with in the following manner:

- If a student is caught cheating, he will receive a zero on the assignment and will be placed on academic probation for the remainder of the school year.
- If the same student is caught cheating again, he will likely be expelled.
- No refunds will be granted for students who are expelled due to cheating.
- A Disciplinary Action Form will be submitted by the student's teacher for any instance of academic dishonesty.

### **Textbooks**

The books needed for the class can be purchased through Veritas Press. It is extremely important that the student has the correct version/edition of these materials.

#### Literature 5 Course Kit (003509)

- Anne of Green Gables (490055)
- Anne of Green Gables Comp Guide (000735)
- Heidi (460340)
- Heidi Comp Guide (000748)
- The Secret Garden (255720)
- The Secret Garden Comp Guide (000775)
- Swiss Family Robinson (435860)
- Swiss Family Robinson Comp Guide (000780)
- Treasure Island (435892)
- Treasure Island Comp Guide (000790)
- Where the Red Fern Grows (490920)
- Where the Red Fern Grows Comp Guide (000770)
- Lad: A Dog (435585)
- Old Yeller (255620)
- Robinson Crusoe (460725)

**Course Calendar**

See Course Assignment Sheet, located on course page, for class dates, breaks and all assignments and assessments. Class dates and breaks can also be found on the current academic year calendar.