

Diverse Literature  
2019 - 2020

**Instructors:** Phillip Howard

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**Course Description:**

Students will participate in group discussions and analysis of culturally diverse literature. Through the discussions, students will both think critically about literature and understand varying cultural perspectives.

**Major Course Objectives:**

After completing the course, students will understand and be able to gain an appreciation of the power literature has played in the formation of all cultural identities, not just the traditional cannon of literature taught in schools. Students will acquire the necessary skills and tools to interact, learn, and process literature that can both represent dominant and marginalized cultures.

This course provides a one-term study of a piece of literature:

*Tao Te Ching* by Lao Tzu

*Born a Crime* by Trevor Noah

*Seven Years in Tibet* by Heinrich Harrer

*The Book of Laughter and Forgetting* by Milan Kundera

*A Thousand Splendid Suns* by Khaled Hosseini

Some of the content in the book may be reserved for mature audiences; however, the scenes and topics are analyzed in the term of the greater purpose of the themes of the book.

Utah has developed a Core Curriculum that outlines specific standards for student learning. The Core curriculum includes ideas, concepts, and skills that provide a foundation on which subsequent learning may be built. The State Core can be accessed at:

<http://www.uen.org/core/core.do?courseNum=4300>

<http://www.uen.org/core/core.do?courseNum=6450>

**Course Materials:**

Students need to come prepared to class so they do not fall behind. Each day, students are expected to bring the necessary items to school to allow them to complete their work. This will vary depending on the activities the student is planning to work on. Students should plan ahead for what they will need. Students may bring their own laptop. Students will need a notebook for module notes which are available to use on all tests and quizzes. Students may also find headphones helpful during the audio portions of the course.

**Format and Procedure:**

All courses will be delivered through the brick and mortar lessons & curriculum. Students will be required to attend Innovations for a minimum of six and a half (6.5) hours per day. Students are required to attend class during specific times to receive direct instruction or participate in discussions.

**Class Meetings:**

Class meeting will be held to go over lessons and provide additional support every other day. Please reference the master schedule for times. Students will be required to attend meetings. In addition to class meeting, teachers and tutors will be available for one-on-one support throughout the day.

**Course Requirements:**

- Students are expected to maintain a steady pace to complete coursework on time. Students must be on time and come prepared to learn.
- Students will be engaged in reading and writing assignments. All writing assignments must be in APA format or they will be returned with zero points. Students will also be participating in group discussions and student-teacher conferences to ensure student understanding and completion.
- Computer labs and laptops will be available to students at Innovations. Due to the unique nature of our school, students must show respect for other students and the resources available to them. Coursework may be completed on or off campus. Students must complete their own coursework. A full list of coursework and descriptions is available online.

**Cheating and Plagiarism:**

Students must complete their own coursework. All tests require a password and **must be taken on campus in the computer lab.**

Cheating includes:

- Completing another student's coursework or having another complete your coursework
- Sharing assignments and test answers with another student
- Using the internet to locate answers to an assignment or test, unless specifically directed to do so.
- Plagiarism includes using someone else's work as your own.
- This also includes not using correct citation and/or not correctly giving credit to the original source.
- Cheating and plagiarism will be grounds for disciplinary actions and/or removal from Innovations High School.

**Grading Procedures:**

Activity and grade listing is accessible online.

Innovations HS follows the SLC School Districts Grading Scale:

|    |           |    |           |
|----|-----------|----|-----------|
| A  | 95 - 100% | C  | 73 - 75%  |
| A- | 90 - 94%  | C- | 70 - 72%  |
| B+ | 86 - 89%  | D+ | 66 - 69%  |
| B  | 83 - 85%  | D  | 63 - 65%  |
| B- | 80 - 82%  | D- | 60 - 62%  |
| C+ | 76 - 79%  | F  | below 60% |

**Class: Diverse Literature**

**Teacher: Mr. Howard**

I have read and agree to the rules specified in this disclosure:

Student: \_\_\_\_\_  
print name

X \_\_\_\_\_  
signature

Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_  
print name

X \_\_\_\_\_  
signature