

Language A - English Course Outline

MYP Level 5 - Grade 10

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I. Course Summary:

Activities in this course are designed to prepare students for the skills they will be expected to master in the upper level IB English courses according to the MYP fundamental concepts and the IB Learner Profile. The course will focus broadly on holistic learning and intercultural awareness. Students will increase their communication skills—verbal and written.

This is a course in contemporary American literature focusing on primarily fiction. Students will be expected to read (outside of class) selected short stories and novels. Poetry will include various pieces from several movements of contemporary poetry. Writing will be stressed the entire year, and critical analysis essays will be featured. Students will also do at least one oral presentation: their participation in a policy debate.

II. Projected Units of Study (not in the order covered)

- **Unit: Documentary – Orientation in space and time:**
In what ways do past actions influence others?
- **Unit: Fiction: *Montana 1948* + Selected Short Stories- Orientation in space and time:**
How is literature a product of its time?
- **Unit: Fiction: *Native American Literature* – Identities and relationships:**
How are we a product of our community and culture?
- **Unit: Novel: Short Fiction – Orientation in space and time:**
How can the past impact the present?
- **Unit: Drama: *Macbeth* – Identities and relationships:**
Why do people do what they do?
- **Unit: Contemporary American Poetry – Personal and cultural expression:**
How can we use writing to express ourselves?

Additionally, all MYP 10th grade students are expected to complete a Personal Project during the course of the school year.

MN State Standards: The following are examples of benchmark standards that will be covered. For a complete list, see <http://mslingo.pbworks.com>

Reading Literature

- Craft and Structure

1. Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in the text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the cumulative impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone (e.g., how the language evokes a sense of time and place; how it sets a formal or informal tone).

Reading Informational Text

- Key Ideas and Details

1. Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.

Writing

- Text Types and Purposes

1. Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

- Research to Build Knowledge

7. Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question) or solve a problem; narrow or broaden the inquiry when appropriate; synthesize multiple sources on the subject, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.

Speaking and Listening

- Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas

4. Present information, findings, and supporting evidence clearly, concisely, and logically such that listeners can follow the line of reasoning and the organization, development, substance, and style are appropriate to purpose, audience, and task.

Language

- Conventions in Writing and Speaking

3. Apply knowledge of language to understand how language functions in different contexts, to make effective choices for meaning or style, and to comprehend more fully when reading or listening.

- Vocabulary Acquisition and Use

4. Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on *grades 9–10*

reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.

MYP Aims:

- Use the language as a vehicle for thought, creativity, reflection, learning and self-expression.
 - Comprehend more clearly aspects of their own culture and those of other cultures by exploring the interdependence of human beings through a variety of works.
 - Explore the many facets of the language through the use of media and information technology.
 - Develop the skills involved in speaking, listening, reading, writing, and viewing in a variety of contexts.
 - Develop a critical approach to studying and analyzing literature.
 - Consider the role of literature both culturally and historically.
 - Reflect on the learning process in various ways and at various stages.
 - Empathize with real people fictional characters as and when appropriate.
- *The MYP Language A Objectives will be addressed through each state content standard.

III. Global Context:

The content of this course will focus on the different MYP Global Context. Students will develop their concept of **identities and relationships** through looking at how people's interactions with others shape who they are. Through the lens of the Hmong Diaspora, students will examine how the difference in **globalization and sustainability** affects lives and choices. The concept of **orientation in time and space** will be delved into through work with literature that spans time. By looking at how the United States, and other countries, medical community worked in the first half of the 20th century, students will examine the concept of personal responsibility and **science and technical innovation**. The concept of **fairness and development** will be examined through looking at how things like emotion and ambition affect personal actions. Finally, students will look both at how they create, and how others create to get a firmer grasp on the concept of **personal and cultural expression**.

IV. Texts:

The unit texts listed above were chosen to best help students meet rigorous academic standards. Each text is well regarded, and has merit. Some texts however, may contain content that some may find objectionable. If this applies to you or your student, please contact the instructor as soon as an issue arises and a solution will be created that will still allow the student to meet the same academic standards.

V. Methodology:

In MYP, teachers work collaboratively to develop a variety of techniques, focusing on approaches to learning, especially critical thinking and reflection. Students take responsibility for their learning through individual and group work, addressing unit and guiding questions, expanding on their critical thinking skills and building on their self-advocacy.

VI. Methods of Assessment:

Students will engage in formative and summative assessments for each unit, which will show knowledge of the content studied. Examples of assessment can include:

*Tests

*Homework/Daily work

*Formal Essays

*Informal Writings

Summative assessments will represent 70% of the total student grade while formative assessments will account for 30% of the total student grade. (Please refer to the HPSH Grading & Assessment Policy for further information)

VII. Grading and Reporting:

MYP Criterion

Students will be assessed multiple times on each of the criterion throughout the course of the year and the assessments will be a part of the students' overall semester grade.

A. Analyzing

B. Organizing

C. Producing Text

D. Using Language

Grading Scale, Make Up Work and Late Work

(Please refer to the HPSH Covid Grading & Assessment Policy for further information)

VIII. Additional Classroom Expectations:

Let's be kind to one another.

Your peers and instructors deserve respect all the time. If someone is talking, you're listening. You cannot do both. Sarcasm and light-hearted jokes are always welcome in this classroom. I can take a joke. Some people cannot. Respect that. Our classroom is a community. Let's make it the best it can be.

Group work: Some formative work will be done in groups. Grades will be handed out as group grades (unless we have told you otherwise). If someone in the group is not pulling their own weight then you need to let one of us know before an assignment or project is completed, as we will not change grades after the fact.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism means copying from another source. This includes your best friend, a book, the Internet, etc. Simply changing a few words does not mean you have not plagiarized. Coincidences can happen, but they do not happen throughout an entire paper. If you are caught plagiarizing you will be given a zero with no make-up. **You may be asked to submit your papers to turnitin.com. Please consult the HPSH Grading & Assessment Policy for further information. And, do not share your work with another student!—I can't tell you how many times friends have uploaded other friends' work to turnitin.com. That will be considered plagiarism.**

**I look forward to a great year,
Mr. Nelson**