

World Literature: Cultural Encounters

COURSE DESCRIPTION

World Literature—Cultural Encounters will provide Leadership students with an academically challenging course of study. Students will read literary texts dealing with the issues of cultural encounters so that they may attain a global perspective on issues such as racism, class and caste systems, culture shock, and acculturation. Exposing students not only to diverse cultures but also to the clashes that exist among cultures will instill principles based on respect and appreciation. In addition, the international focus of this course will provide these young leaders with a sense of their responsibility within a global context. In addition to the chronological survey provided in the World Literature textbook, students will read from a variety of texts, including:

- *Anthem by Ayn Rand*
- *Siddhartha by Hermann Hesse*
- *Night by Elie Wiesel*

Students will explore various writing techniques and styles. These techniques will be used in their own expository, persuasive, and creative writings. Critiquing literary works is a major focus at this level. The fundamental elements of research will be applied directly to written and oral communications. Knowledge will be evident through oral presentations, written reports, analyses, and small/large group discussions.

ESSENTIAL SKILLS

Critical Thinking, Listening, Oral Communication, Problem Solving, Reading, Research, Technology, Writing

Ms. Stephanie Barnes

“If you get, give. If you learn, teach.” –Maya Angelou

Ms. Barnes is passionate not only about teaching her students, but also about learning from them. She loves English 10 because World Literature allows us to place our own experiences in the context of the world around us and to learn from the combined experiences of our class and of the texts we read.

As a student in the Center for Leadership and International Relations, Ms. Barnes thought she wanted to teach high school social studies. While working at the student newspaper at the College of William and Mary, she realized English language and literature were her true interests. She graduated with a B.A. in English and secondary education, and is thrilled to be back at James River High School. She enjoys teaching English because it allows for discussions and investigations of such a wide variety of topics and ideas and because communication is critical for students no matter what they pursue after high school.

Ms. Barnes believes strongly in community involvement, and she loves working with the Do Something Club to give back to the James River community.