

DNBi English

9th Grade Intl. [6 periods per week]

Dr. Sharon Kunde

Course Description

In 9 DNBi English, students will encounter a range of texts including drama, novels, short stories, nonfiction essays, poetry, and film. Through the exploration of nine essential notions including love, friendship, and struggle, students will make connections between texts, their lives, and the larger world. Class assignments will help students comprehend complex texts expressed in a variety of literary styles, identify and make connections with the themes central to the texts, and improve their ability to identify and analyze aspects of form that contribute to a text's meaning. Students will produce personal responses, analytic essays, creative writing, and oral presentations that will reflect their developing understanding of language's ability to persuade, inspire, and transform. At the end of the school year, students will present a portfolio highlighting their ability to discuss a chosen theme using relevant examples and reasoned arguments, while also developing skills in problem solving, organization, and time management.

A note on the international section of the Brevet: all 9th grade students will take an oral exam at the end of the year in order to achieve the international mention for the Brevet (DNB-I). The course and the exam will serve as a validation of the bilingualism and biculturalism of LILA students. The exam is given at the end of May and lasts 20 minutes per examinee. Consisting of a presentation of a portfolio and an interview with the examiner, the exam will determine the linguistic capabilities of the candidate. The competencies are evaluated with reference to level B2 on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.

Timeline

August/September: *Gulliver's Travels* by Jonathan Swift (ISBN: 9780451531131)

September/October: *Twilight: Los Angeles, 1992* by Anna Deavere Smith (ISBN: 9780385473767); essays, poetry, documentary

November/December: *Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe (ISBN: 9780385474542); poetry, short story

January/February: *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee (ISBN: 9780060935467); short story

March/April: *1984* by George Orwell (ISBN: 9780451524935)

April/May: *Merchant of Venice* by William Shakespeare (ISBN: 9780743477567)

* Note: syllabus is subject to adjustments at instructor's discretion

Grading Scale

90 - 100: A

Major assessments: 100 points

80 - 89: B

Minor assessments: 25 points

70 - 79: C

60 - 69: D

59 and below: F

Materials

A physical, personal copy of the correct edition of the book

Pens, pencils, looseleaf paper

Spiral notebook

Three-ring binder for Brevet materials

Folder for class materials