

All virtual courses include a state mandated virtual synchronous session at least once per marking period. These sessions will be scheduled and facilitated by the course instructor.

English Language Arts

CONTEMPORARY NOVELS (.5 credit)

Grades: 9-12

For this course, students will read a set of novels and novellas that were written during the twentieth century and reflect themes common to contemporary literature, such as the ability of the human spirit to rise above seemingly-impossible circumstances. Through creative projects and writing assignments, students will identify and analyze each novel's themes and also compare and contrast the novels' treatment of common themes. Please note that, like most contemporary literature, the novels assigned for this course contain realistic situations and language. In addition to the novels listed, each student will read another contemporary novel of his or her choosing that the instructor must approve. MLA (Modern Language Association) documentation is required on all papers submitted. The following novels are read during this course.

- Picture Bride By Yoshiko Uchida
- Night By Elie Weisel
- To Kill a Mockingbird By Harper Lee
- Fallen Angels By Walter Dean Myers
- The Old Man and The Sea By Ernest Hemingway
- Rita Hayworth and Shawshank Redemption
By Stephen King

CREATIVE WRITING (.5 credit)

Grades: 9-12

For many hundreds of years, literature has been one of the most important human art forms. It allows us to give voice to our emotions, create imaginary worlds, express ideas, and escape the confines of material reality. Through creative writing, we can come to understand ourselves and our world a little bit better. This course provides students with a solid grounding in the writing process, from finding inspiration to building a basic story to using complicated literary techniques and creating strange hybrid forms of poetic prose and prose poetry. By the end of this course, students will learn how to discover their creative thoughts and turn those ideas into fully realized pieces of creative writing.

Frankenstein - Gothic Literature: A Monster Story (.5 credit)

Grades: 9-12

Do you love a good ghost story? Do you love scary movies? This course will focus on the major themes found in Frankenstein and demonstrate how the core writing produces a thrilling psychological environment in both print and on screen. Terror versus horror, the influence of the supernatural, and descriptions of the difference between good and evil are just a few of the themes presented in Frankenstein. By the time students have completed this course, they will have read Frankenstein by Mary Shelly, compared the novel to the 1913 movie adaption, gained an understanding for the complex nature of dark fiction, and explored how this genre can be adapted for film.

HARRY POTTER: A Study of Wizards, Witches, and Muggles (.5 credit)**Grades: 9-12**

Whether you are a first year Harry Potter fan, or a seventh, you will find magic in this course. The Harry Potter series is a cultural phenomenon that ignited the imaginations of young readers and introduced them to magical characters that they could grow up with. In this course, we will study the first three Harry Potter books as a coming-of-age story. We will study the characters, their development, and the various themes presented in the series. We will interpret the growth and development of the characters through their magical journeys and then analyze how their life experiences can relate to our own. Take a trip to Diagon Alley to gather your materials and dare to explore the magical world of wizards, witches, and muggles.

Literature required for this course:

- Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone
- Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets
- Harry Potter and Prisoner of Azkaban

JOURNALISM (.5 credit)**Grades: 9-12**

Understanding the role of the free press in America helps us to be better informed and more able to analyze media. In this course, you will explore the history of journalism in the United States from its inception in the colonies and its key role in the first amendment, all the way up to present day issues regarding “right to know” and the changing landscape of journalistic media in the 21st century. You will acquire the skills and information needed to actively participate in the consumption, analysis, and creation of news media and will have the opportunity to investigate the constantly evolving career opportunities within the field of journalism.

THE LORD OF THE RINGS: An Exploration of the Films & Their Literary Influences (.5 credit)**Grades: 9-12**

The Lord of the Rings is one of the most popular stories in the modern world. In this course, you will study the movie versions of J.R.R. Tolkien’s novel and learn about the process of converting literature to film. You will explore fantasy literature as a genre and critique the three Lord of the Rings films.

Required Materials: *You will be required to own or have access to the standard (non-extended) versions of the three Lord of the Rings films. Cayuga-Onondaga BOCES will not provide the films for this course. If you do not already have access to these movies, you may consider other sources such as your local library.*

- *The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring*
- *The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers*
- *The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King*

THEATRE STUDIES (.5 credit)

Grades: 9-12

Have you ever wondered how a play goes from the playwright's mind all the way into a multi-million dollar Broadway production? In this course, you'll learn the whole process! This course provides a thorough introduction to the theater by providing an overview of major topics in theater studies, with a blend of theoretical and practical lessons. In the first half of this course you will learn about the definitions of theater, theater history, and contemporary theatrical genres. The second half of the course will guide you through all of the elements of putting on a professional theatrical production. You will learn about the entire production process, from playwriting through opening night, including elements of technical theater, the rehearsal process, and audience response. Whether you're an aspiring actor, technician, director, or producer, or even just an avid theater-goer, this course is for you.