

Licia K. Clark, Director

Fresno, 26 May 2010

Dear Home Schooling Parents:

Welcome to Literature and Writing! I hope you and your children are having a great summer. It is a pleasure for me to be teaching English at Peoples School of Creative Arts this year, and I am looking forward to an enjoyable, challenging, and enriching year working with you. PSCA is continuing to foster an environment of academic excellence and creative learning opportunities for our students.

Below please find the goals for the Literature and Writing course; all goals support the California State Department of Education Standards for English.

Literature: We will concentrate on a sampling of great literary works from America and throughout the world. We will also spend some time on essays and non-fiction prose. Students will be exposed to literature from a variety of genres, cultures, and time periods and will improve reading comprehension and critical thinking skills. We will also analyze and interpret works of literature, drawing inferences that apply to us in today's world. In the process, we will be approaching literature from a Christian perspective, based on the assumption that any kind of writing represents a world view, Christian or otherwise. (See tables below for a list of the works we will be reading.)

Writing: We will be writing in a variety of rhetorical modes and to different purposes and audiences, including argument and persuasion, narrative and description, creative fiction and nonfiction, and expository writing. Students will research and write analytical papers and essays based on the literature that we read. We will be reviewing the writing process, from generating ideas to outlining and drafting. Students' work will be peer and teacher evaluated, revised and edited, and re-evaluated.

List of literary works

7/8 Grade (new students)

- Sir Arthur Conan Doyle *The Hound of the Baskervilles* (first semester)
- Willa Cather *O Pioneers* (second semester)

7/8 Grade (returning students)

- Mark Twain *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* (First semester)
- Esther Hautzig *The Endless Steppe: Growing Up in Siberia* (Second semester)

9/10 Grade (returning and new students)

- Mark Twain *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* (first semester)
- John Steinbeck *The Pearl* (second semester)
- William Shakespeare: *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (second semester)

Tuition:

Tuition for each student is \$ 125.00 per semester. Tuition includes books and all reading materials. All reading lists will be complemented by thematically related shorter texts. Copies will be available during the semester and collected again at the end of the semester.

Registration Forms

For registration forms please check the PSCA website or contact me at izv@fpu.edu for a copy. Registration forms must be completed by the beginning of the semester and submitted to the mailing address below, along with a \$15.00 non-refundable deposit.

Ingrid Voss
572 E.Ahwahnee Avenue
Fresno, CA 93720
(559) 435-0670

Dates/Time:

First day of class: August 10, 2010

Last day of class: November 16, 2010

7/8 Grade (new students): 8:00AM-9:00 AM

7/8Grade (returning): 9:15 AM- 10:15 AM

10/11 Grade 10: 30 AM-11:30 AM

A course schedule detailing reading and writing assignments in each course will be available at the beginning of the semester.

Thank you for your cooperation. I look forward to meeting with you in August!

In Christ,

Ingrid Voss