

## Masconomet Regional High School Curriculum Guide

**Course Title: English 12: Global Literature**

**Course Number: 0184**

**Department: English**

**Grade Level and Phase: 12H/CP**

**Length of Course: Year**

### **I. Course Description:**

Grade 12 English, Global Literature, focuses on the literature from those parts of the world—Africa, Asia, and South America—that have not been fully represented in the Masconomet English curriculum in grades 7-11. The aim of the course is to enlarge our understanding of the varieties of human experience by attending to stories about people from cultures different from our own. We will identify universal themes in the literature that will help us to question how the human experience is both influenced by and transcends geographical and cultural boundaries. Throughout our study of global literature, we will continue to develop our critical reading, writing, and discussion skills, and will work to express our thoughts clearly and effectively. While you will be asked to read carefully and to write about the literature in the traditional analytical manner, the real task will be for us to imagine ourselves living life according to a different set of “rules” or cultural assumptions. As with the other variations of English 12, the central question for this course is: What is human nature and how do we know?

### **II. Central Objectives:**

Students who pass this course will:

1. Compare and contrast literature from different cultures
2. Expand their vocabulary including knowledge and application of literary terms
3. Hone their critical reading skills
4. Hone their critical writing skills
5. Analyze in writing the literature under study making connections to our contemporary society
6. Form and express critical opinions about the themes and developments in the literature through cooperative learning strategies in the classroom and presentations
7. Demonstrate a willingness to understand experience through a variety of frameworks
8. Demonstrate the ability to participate in discussion and work with others
9. Incorporate technology into their classroom presentations
10. Utilize the Internet, CD-ROM and other resources in the library as aids in the composition of some papers
11. Write a College Essay
12. Address and respond to the central question in writing and through discussion: What is human nature and how do we know?

These objectives support the following **Learning Expectations from the Masconomet High School Mission Statement: A1, A3, A4, S1, C1**

### **III. Learning Activities include but are not limited to:**

Classroom discussion	Creative writing
Lecture	Writing a variety of compositions
Cooperative group work	Listening
Student presentations	Formulating critical questions
Internet and library research	Studying literature in context
Film study	Studying genre: fiction, poetry, non-fiction, drama
Sustained silent reading	Studying imagery
Learning games	Media study
Grammar study	Media presentations
Note taking	Dramatic readings
Journal writing	College application essays
Portfolio building	Outside reading
Peer editing	Artistic projects
Literature circles	
Writing circles	

Each of these learning activities supports the **Massachusetts English Language Arts Curriculum Framework**.

#### **IV. General Expectations**

You have selected this course because of your curiosity or interest in global literature. You will be expected to read, write, and come to class prepared to give your critical opinion and assessment of human nature through the literature under study. You are also expected to choose the course level at the start of the class, knowing that you will be required to complete the assignments based on your decision. This course will be a preparation for college, so to fulfill that goal successfully you must be willing to work hard and think critically and creatively.

#### **V. Evaluation**

Approximate Grading Breakdown:

Tests, Projects, and Essays: 40%  
Journal Writing, Class Work, and Homework: 40%  
Quizzes: 20%

#### **VI. Materials:**

Titles will be chosen from the following:

*Nervous Conditions* by Tsitsi Dangarembga  
*Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe  
*White Tiger* by Aravind Adiga  
*Three Cups of Tea* by Greg Mortenson  
*In the Time of the Butterflies* by Julia Alvarez  
*Interpreter of Maladies* by Jhumpa Lahiri  
*The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini  
*The Vintage Book of Latin American Short Stories*  
*China Boy* by Gus Lee  
*The Metamorphosis* by Franz Kafka

Selected articles, essays, poems, and short stories from the Middle East, Latin America, Africa, and Asia

#### **VII. Scope and Sequence:**

Because the content and skills do not need to be learned in a sequential fashion, the scope and sequence varies with individual sections and teachers. All students passing this course will have met the objectives listed above.

#### **VIII. Assessment:**

Students will demonstrate that they have achieved the central objectives in this course by performing successfully on

1. Essays
2. Reading journals charting their work through assigned reading
3. Impromptu in-class writing
4. Tests and quizzes on the reading and vocabulary
5. Classroom presentations
6. Homework
7. Classroom discussions
8. Mid-year exam