Course Description:

Utilizing a variety of writing genres, this course will focus on close reading of text for understanding and analysis purposes. Students will build their skill in analyzing, interpreting and evaluating the authors' use of techniques in fiction and nonfiction classical and contemporary works. They will study the impact of cultures and writers on literature and will build their skill in identifying and using literary devices through textual analysis. The course will focus on skills that aid students in interpreting the literal and figurative meanings of words as well as their origins. Students will continue vocabulary acquisition through the use of the English department's vocabulary program, which focuses on words that appear on the SAT test. Students will write beyond the five-paragraph essay. Students will build communication skills during class discussions of material by learning how to respond in a scholarly manner and will be able to support their position with textual responses in both large and small group situations. Students will also make associations between history, the arts, and literature. Through the use of various mediums of art, students will connect to the texts on both an intellectual and mimetic level.

Learning Activities / Modes of Assessment:

Large group instruction Small group work Web Quests Think-Pair-Share Debate

Tests and Quizzes Projects with Rubrics Written Reactions Checklists / Teacher Observation

Instructional Resources:

Vocabulary Workshop (Sadlier-Oxford, 2005) Selections from LASD Approved Book List Appropriate Internet Sites

Course: English 9 Honors	
Course Unit (Topic)	Length of Instruction (Days/Periods)
1. Short Story	25 days
2. Novel	25 days
3. Poetry	25 days
4. Drama	25 days
5. Epic Poetry	25 days
6. Non-Fiction	25 days