VCE Literature

Subject Description

The study of Literature is based on the enjoyment and appreciation of reading that comes from discussion, debate and the challenge of exploring the meanings of literary texts. Students reflect on their interpretations of texts and the views others hold. The subject requires a strong commitment to the set reading and covers a range of forms including film, novels, plays, short stories and poetry. The study of literature encourages independent and critical thinking in students’ analytical and creative responses to texts, which will assist students in the workforce and in future academic study.

UNIT 1

This unit focuses on how literature represents human experience and is designed to allow students to develop practices that deepen their understanding of a text. Narrative, characterisation, structure and language of literary texts are all explored.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES
Students will write analytical and imaginative responses, give spoken presentations and read a range of texts. The subject promotes classroom activities that integrate the skills of reading, writing, speaking, listening and thinking.

KEY SKILLS REQUIRED
Close reading and listening, effective writing and speaking, using language expressively and accurately.

ASSESSED TASKS
An essay discussing how personal responses to literature are developed, an essay considering the views and values of a text and an end of semester written examination consisting of an analysis of a non-print text

UNIT 2

The focus of this unit is on students’ critical and creative responses to texts. Students explore the contexts and forms of literary works and how these affect their meanings and ideas.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES
Students will explore the features of different writing styles, the effect of adapting literature to film and the significance of social context on a writer’s work. The set reading includes novels, plays, short stories and poetry.

KEY SKILLS REQUIRED
Close reading and listening, effective writing, speaking, and analysis, using language expressively and accurately and the capacity to learn and use literary and analytical terms.
ASSESSED TASKS
A critical examination of the relationship of ideas in texts from past and present eras, a creative response to one of the set texts and an end of semester written examination comparing and interpreting how a novel and a film make meaning.

UNIT 3
This unit focuses on the ways writers construct their work and how meaning is created for and by the reader. Students consider how the form of text (such as poetry, prose, drama, non-print or combinations of these) affects meaning, the ways texts represent views and values and the social, historical and cultural contexts of literary works.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES
Students write analytical and imaginative responses, give spoken presentations and read a range of texts.

KEY SKILLS REQUIRED
Close reading and listening, effective writing and speaking, using language expressively and accurately and the capacity to learn and use literary and analytical terms.

ASSESSED TASKS
Analytical comparison of print and non-print versions of a text, analysis of the views and values of a set text and an evaluation of a review.

UNIT 4
This unit focuses on students’ creative and critical responses to texts. Students consider the context of their responses as well as the concerns, the style of the language and the point of view in their re-created or adapted work. Students develop an interpretation of a text and learn to shape their insights into a clear, substantiated response.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES
Students write analytical responses, give spoken presentations and read a range of texts.

KEY SKILLS REQUIRED
Close reading and listening, effective writing and speaking, using language expressively and accurately and the capacity to learn and use literary and analytical terms.

ASSESSED TASKS
Extended creative response to one of the set texts, an extended interpretation of a set text and an end of year written examination.

VCAA ASSESSMENT – The overall Study Score will consist of:
School Assessed Coursework Unit 3 (25%), School Assessed Coursework Unit 4 (25%), 2 hour written examination in November (50%).

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