



Ephrata High School  
Course Syllabus



Literature of the Fantastic  
1045

*I. Course Description*

**Literature of the Fantastic**  
**Grades 11, 12**

**.5 Credit (Semester 2)**

Literature of the Fantastic will trace the development of the classic horror story into the modern science fiction format. Students will study the growth of these types of literature through short stories, novels, films, and poetry. Units focus on Gothic Horror, Fantasy and Science Fiction literature. Poe, Shelley, Wells, Verne, Bradbury, and Kafka are a few of the authors studied throughout the course. Essays, reading comprehension and the online moodle site are used throughout the course.

*II. Materials & Equipment*

Released PSSA prompts  
*Supernatural*  
*Fantasy*  
*Science Fiction, Fact and You*  
Selected videos  
Selected Scope magazines

*III. Course Goals & Objectives*

<Improved student reading comprehension focusing on main idea, tone, purpose and plot  
Improved student writing of expository and persuasive style essays and impromptus  
Understanding of society's influence upon its literature – both historically and modern day

*IV. Course Topics (Summary Outline)*

Literature of the Fantastic

*Intro*

Overview of course

*Unit 1 Gothic – Supernatural book/Scope magazine*

1. Essential unit questions: What events of history affect literature? Why focus on Europe and not America? What are the key elements of Gothic literature?
  - a. Notes on gothic genre
  - b. Selected short stories
  - c. DVD Bride of Frankenstein & excerpts from the original Frankenstein

- d. Point of view essay
- e. Test

## Unit 2 Fantasy – *Fantasy book/Scope Magazine*

EQ: How does Fantasy differ from Horror? What events in history brought about the change to fantasy literature?

### *Fantasy*

1. Notes on fantasy genre
  - a. VC Dark Crystal
  - b. Stories from book **Fantasy**
  - c. Scope magazine “The Metamorphosis”
  - d. Composition
  - e. Test

## **Unit 3 - Science Fiction – *Science Fiction, Fact and You book***

EQ: What historical events influenced this writing genre? What are the differences and similarities between Gothic, Fantasy and Sci-fi literature?

### Science Fiction

1. Notes on the genre of science fiction
  - a. selected short stories from the unit book
  - b. Invasion of the body snatchers
  - c. Star Trek – the 50 years review
  - d. Night of the Living Dead
  - e. Jules Verne biography
  - f. Time Machine
  - g. Twilight Zone series – 2 boxes
  - h. Composition – original story choice
  - i. TEST

### *Unit 4 PSSA Prep*

*EQ: Why is it important to know and use proper English?*

1. PSSA work – mechanics, usage, forms for informative, persuasive and narrative

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Final =open notebook test

## *V. Assignments & Grading*

Diagnostic essay, terminology and conventions tests  
Rubrics for all writing assignments and projects  
Graded packets for each unit