



**Ephrata High School**  
**Course Syllabus**  
**Tandem II**  
**1200**



### *I. Course Description*

Tandem II is a level 2 course that provides students with extensive practice and exposure to all aspects of the language arts. Units studied include enhanced and sophisticated writing opportunities, in depth literature study, public speaking, and advanced researching through the “Alter Ego” project. Students read and respond to various short stories, poems, and longer works of fiction including *Lord of the Flies*, *Hamlet*, and *The Jungle*.

### *II. Materials & Equipment*

*Lord of the Flies*  
*Hamlet*  
*The Jungle*  
*Various Short Stories & Poems*  
*Related Films and Non-Fiction Reading Selections*  
*Media Center Resources*  
*Vocabulary Workshop Level F*

### *III. Course Goals & Objectives*

Students will be able to:

- Write complex informational pieces such as analysis, evaluations, and essays.
- Write persuasive pieces.
- Describe the influence of historical events on literature.
- Locate various texts, media, and traditional resources for assigned and independent projects before reading.
- Analyze the structure of informational materials explaining how authors use these to achieve their purposes.
- Use knowledge of root words and words from literary works to recognize and understand the meaning of new words during reading. Use these words accurately in speaking and writing.
- Identify, describe, evaluate, and synthesize the essential ideas in texts. Assess those strategies that were most effective in learning from a variety of texts.
- Establish a reading vocabulary by identifying and correctly using new words acquired through the study of their relationships to other words.
- Demonstrate after reading understanding and interpretation of both fiction and non-fiction text.
- Demonstrate fluency and comprehension in reading.
- Write with sharp, distinct focus.
- Write using well-developed content appropriate for the topic.
- Write with controlled organization.
- Write with a command of the stylistic aspects of communication.
- Peer correct using a rubric.
- Revise and edit using appropriate skills.
- Read and understand works of literature.
- Analyze the relationship, uses, and effectiveness of literary elements used by one or more authors in a similar genre including characterization, setting, plot, theme, point of view, tone, and style.
- Analyze the effectiveness of the author’s use of literary devices including sound techniques, figurative language, and literary structures.
- Analyze and evaluate in poetry the appropriateness of diction and figurative language.
- Analyze how a scriptwriter’s use of words creates tone and mood and how choice of words advances the theme or purpose of a work.
- Read and respond to fiction and non-fiction including poetry and drama.
- Locate information using appropriate sources and strategies.
- Take notes.
- Write a thesis statement.
- Create an outline.
- Use traditional and electronic sources.

- Avoid plagiarism.
- Listen to others.
- Listen to selections of literature (fiction and/or non-fiction).
- Speak using appropriate skills to form speech situations.
- Contribute to class discussions.
- Participate in group discussions and presentations.
- Use media for learning purposes.

#### *IV. Course Topics (Summary Outline)*

##### **I. Pre-Assessment**

- A. Grammar Quiz
  1. take pre-test, assess and analyze results
  2. "To Do" list
  3. Literary Terms/Figurative Language
    - a. objective pre-test
    - b. list for notebook

##### **II. Short Stories**

- A. Edgar Allan Poe
  1. Biography
  2. Tone/Mood
  3. "Black Cat"
  4. Poetry
    - a. "Dream Within a Dream"
    - b. "Annabel Lee"
- B. Mark Twain
  1. Biography
  2. Euphemism, Parody, Satire
  3. "Burlesque Biography"
- C. Kate Chopin
  1. Biography
  2. Irony
  3. "Story of an Hour"
- D. O. Henry
  1. Biography
  2. Theme
  3. "The Last Leaf"
- E. Ernest Hemingway
  1. Biography
  2. Style
  3. "Cat in the Rain"
- F. Shirley Jackson
  1. Biography
  2. Foreshadowing, Symbolism
  3. "The Lottery"
  4. Impromptu Writing

##### **III. Novels**

- A. *The Jungle*
  1. Reading Log/Group Notes
  2. Literary Terms
  3. Guided Reading Ch. 1
  4. Impromptu Writing
  5. Discussion
  6. Group Project, Test
- B. *Lord of the Flies*
  1. Survival Skills
  2. Reading Schedule
  3. Reading Quizzes, Discussion
  4. Essay Assignment

#### **IV. Drama/Film**

- A. *Grapes of Wrath*
  - 1. Chapter reading
  - 2. Film viewing
  - 3. Sonnet Assignment
- B. *Dead Poets' Society*
  - 1. Film Viewing
  - 2. Poetry Assignment
- C. Shakespeare Background
  - 1. A & E biography
  - 2. Literary Terms
- D. *Hamlet*
  - 1. Read Aloud
  - 2. Discussion
  - 3. Essay Assignment
  - 4. Group Presentations – Act IV

#### **V. Vocabulary F**

- A. Pre-Assessment
- B. Unit Book Activities
- C. Individual word activities/games
- D. Unit Tests
- E. Final Exam

#### **VI. Writing/Grammar**

- A. DOL
  - 1. Daily exercises
  - 2. SAT type exercises
  - 3. Quizzes
- B. Parts of a Sentence
  - 1. Phrases
  - 2. Clauses
  - 3. Sentence Structure/Types
  - 4. Sentence Variation

#### **VII. Alter Ego**

- A. Pathfinder
- B. Biography Research Paper
- C. Timeline
- D. Persuasive Assignment
- E. Alter Ego Resume
- F. Scrapbook
- G. Presentation

#### **V. Assignments & Grading**

Unit quizzes and tests  
Vocabulary assignments and unit tests  
Several major pieces of writing  
Extension projects for major Units (*The Jungle, Lord of the Flies, Hamlet*)  
Response to a variety of texts  
Cross Curricular Alter Ego Project (American History and Language Arts)  
Course Pre-Assessments  
Final Exam