

Language Arts OPTION A

A year-long course
2019/2020



Unitas Honor Academy

Nilil sine Deo

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course is intended for students in grades 4th, 5th, and 6th.

A note about our composition program- At UHA we employ the Memoria Press' composition program, Classical Composition. The program is based on the original classical method of teaching writing called the "progymnasmata." It was the program that produced John Milton and William Shakespeare. This method involved learning fourteen skills, organized from the simplest and most basic to the most complex and sophisticated. We will place new students in the "best fit" class.

- Grammar- rules are reinforced and introduced through recitation and application.
- Spelling & Lovely Penmanship- requirements are honed in this course while application is required for all writing in all courses.
- Composition- Students will master an understanding of how writing functions in communicating an idea. Students will develop the skill of variation as they are guided through the process of paraphrasing a text. Expansion in vocabulary, observed both in writing as well as speech, is a central goal at this level of writing. Ability to identify and understand plot components is further developed in this course, as is the capacity to structure an essay properly. Students will begin to practice use of figures of speech and figures of description in their writing. Imitation is utilized as the primary method of drafting a composition.

INSTRUCTOR

Mr. Hutchins
unitashonor@gmail.com

ELIGIBLE STUDENTS

Targeted for grades 4th - 6th or older students with little grammar knowledge

CLASS DATES & TIMES

CLASS MEETS ON TUESDAYS from 12:30 - 2:30

Dates: August 27; September 3, 10, 17, 24; October 15, 22, 29; November 5, 12, 19; December 3, 10, 17; January 7, 14, 21, 28; February 4, 11, 18, 25; March 3, 10, 17, 24; April 14, 21, 28; May 5, 12 (19th is last day)

Please note that all dates are subject to change as the instructor's circumstances might dictate (illness, emergencies, etc). Any classes cancelled will be made up. Classes may be made up by rescheduling a meeting time, providing a live-online meeting, providing a recorded video, emailed lesson plans for home study, etc. Every effort will be made to accommodate the majority of families when make-up methods are determined.

COURSE EXPECTATIONS

In class: Students will be expected to listen attentively and participate actively (recite, read and share compositions aloud, ask questions when needed, and answer questions when called upon). Students are expected to arrive to class on time and with all home assignments completed. The teacher will facilitate learning, but due to the nature of a once-per-week class the responsibility for staying up-to-date with classwork and assignments ultimately falls to the student. If the student finds that he or she needs additional teacher assistance, a tutoring session should be scheduled.

Home Assignments: Given the once-a-week nature of this class, students must complete assigned work on time and come to class meetings fully prepared. Home/Study Hall assignments may include re-reading from the text, completing written work, making flash cards, and reciting aloud to a family member. Home/Study Hall assignments should not exceed 1 hour during the course of a week.

*Core texts (required for course): Classical Composition II: Narrative; Core Skills 5
Other Supplemental Material Provided by Instructor.*

STUDENT ASSESSMENT

Unitas transcripts will be issued to all students- full and part time. Homeschool parents are the final authority, however, when it comes to the final grade that goes on their child's final record. If there is an area of growth you are desiring for your child, please let us know ahead of time. This is one way we can partner together to help your child grow and develop, and will give us a meaningful starting point for the written reflection that accompanies each transcript.

Here are ways we assess different age groups. Percentage grades that UHA awards are solely based on assessments deemed "Quiz", "Test", "Rubric". The reporting method for each assessment is noted.

Language Arts OPTION A Assessments and Grades
Grades 4th, 5th, 6th
Recitation Reporting Method: Recitation in class and at Ceremonies
Quizzes that Survey General Knowledge (Written & Oral) <i>(Shorter and more frequent than Tests. Graded for Accuracy. Percentage Grade awarded)</i> Reporting Method: Transcript
Unit Tests that Summarize Knowledge and Retention <i>(Graded for Accuracy. Percentage Grade awarded)</i> Reporting Method: Transcript
Most Compositions: Completion <i>(Feedback given. Reflections and Documentation required for Portfolios)</i> Reporting Method: Portfolio
End of Semester Compositions (2 total- 1 at the end of fall semester and 1 at the end of spring semester) <i>(Graded via Rubric that students will learn to use throughout the year)</i> Reporting Method: Transcript & Portfolio

Nihil sine Deo... Nothing without God.