

## *Norwood Public Schools*

# **Junior/Senior Life, Literature, and Film Curriculum Overview**

### **Description (including primary objectives and outcomes):**

This two-year course is designed for students who may not want to attend a Massachusetts public four-year college or university and may instead may want to enroll in a two-year community college, a private college or university a vocational program, the military, or enter the working world, but still satisfy Norwood High School's English language arts requirement. The course is built around literature, film, and themes of everyday life that film and literature attempt to address. The course work is focused on practical aspects of writing, problem solving, and discussion, and pursues themes of consequence, self and other awareness, and actualizing individual potential in regard to how language is used to communicate the full range of needs of the individual.

### **Learning Experiences:**

#### **Reading**

Drawing inferences from a variety of texts  
Comparing and contrasting themes in a variety of texts  
Analyzing literature within its historical context

#### **Writing**

Using discussion to develop original theses independently  
Writing a College Essay  
Organizing and composing various pieces of both formal and informal writing, including personal responses, literary analyses, and creative writing  
Prewriting and revising essays  
Gathering literary evidence to support a thesis

#### **Speaking and Listening and Viewing**

Informal listening and contributing to class discussions, using the text to develop and support ideas  
Formal listening and contributing to class discussion during Socratic Seminars  
Presentations using Power Point  
Critical viewing and media literacy

### **Content Outline:**

Key themes in behavioral psychology, two to three novels, collections of poems and short stories, non-fiction, drama, visual criticism, film theory, film history, documentary form, film criticism, film research, resume/cover letter, college essay.

### **Resources Used:**

*Major literary works include: Into the Wild, Lord of the Flies, As I Lay Dying, Billy Budd, Reading the World, Hamlet, Death of a Salesman, Food Inc., Breaking Away, Tea for the Tillerman, Gas Food Lodging, Civil Action, and Erin Brokovitch.*

As of June 2013