**Mrs. Hall’s Junior Comp/Lit Class Syllabus**

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| **Course Instructor:**  | Mrs. Tara Hall |
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REQUIRED SUPPLIES:

Loose-leaf notebook 1.5 Inch (Better Binders at Staples hold up well)

Loose-leaf notebook paper

5-subject tab dividers (for loose-leaf notebook)

Black or blue pens

Highlighters (four colors)

Colored pens (Green/Red/Purple)

Pencil pocket holder that attaches to the 3 ring binder of their notebook

Copies of the following CORE books:

J.R. Tolkien *Smith of Wootton Major & Farmer Giles of Ham*

Scott Card *Ender’s Game*

Peter Beagle *The Last Unicorn*

Christopher Paolini *Eragon*

C. S. Lewis *Out of the Silent Planet*

COURSE MATERIALS:

Each student will receive their copy of *Words of Wonder*, this curriculum will include 32 weeks of course work with assignments/rubrics (literature, writing skills, essay construction, analysis, peer review, intro to Socratic Discussions, grammar review, short stories, vocabulary, etc.). Fees for the copies can be paid at their first class. I will have the totals sent out to you before class, but should range between $15-20 depending on the volume discount for copies.

This course will encourage all students who desire a literary and linguistic challenge.It is designed to introduce students to literary analysis and grow their writing skills. A research paper will be included in the second semester. This course will provide your student with one high school credit of English Composition. As the parent, if you wish to incorporate additional novels/discussions at home it could also count towards an additional credit of literature. One credit of high school is equivalent to five hours of work a week. You can judge the time they dedicated and give credits that fit their work level. Students should expect to manage reading schedules and work completed outside of class. In addition, students are expected to employ good mechanics in writing and to progress in vocabulary development. Usage of the MLA style handbook for research papers is required and handouts available in their Writing resource folder will help. I highly recommend Purdue Online Writing Lab (OWL) for specific questions relating to MLA/Text Citations. This site is my go to for the ‘last word’ on MLA.

As the course facilitator, I view my role as an encourager and skill builder. As the homeschool student, managing time and tackling the course work with a good work ethic will have more impact on their skills than one can imagine. I will carefully and considerately help them through the mire of time management. I ask that you partner with me to ensure they are timely with their assignments. If a class is missed, work that was due on that day may be turned in the following week, but they are also responsible for the missed class (all assignments are listed weekly in their workbook) work to be turned in on the day they return. Late work will be accepted but they will lose 20 points for each week that it is late. No late work will be accepted beyond 2 weeks late. Special exceptions made for special issues.

You can track your student’s progress on their account that will be set up the first day of class on Engrade. ([www.Engrade.com](http://www.Engrade.com)) Your student’s login information will be given to them to attach to their workbook if you ever lose it. An email will be sent asking you to change their password..make sure to record this password in their workbook or a safe place. It can be difficult to retrieve account information through Engrade. I can help families that navigate through Engrade, if you have any questions.

**Course Goals**

1. To carefully read and critically analyze various genres of literature.
2. To understand the way writers use language to provide meaning.
3. To consider a work’s structure, style, and themes, as well as such elements as the use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone.
4. To understand a work’s complexity, absorb richness of meaning, and analyze how meaning is embodied in literary form.
5. To consider the social, spiritual, and historical values a work reflects and embodies.
6. To write accurately and effectively, focusing on critical analysis of literature and rhetoric, as well as to write creatively to develop your own writer’s voice and improve personal writing style.
7. To become aware of, through speaking, listening, reading, and chiefly writing, the resources of language: connotation, metaphor, irony, syntax, and tone.
8. To develop and hone advanced vocabulary.

Additional Novel titles that would complement this course:

Dragon’s Blood, Jane Yolen

The Hobbit, J.R.R. Tolkien

A Murder for Her Majesty, Beth Hilgartner

Warrior Scarlett, Rosemary Sutcliff

Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIHM, Robert O’Brien