

# MULTICULTURAL LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION SYLLABUS

Margaret Shuman, Instructor; [shumanhw@gmail.com](mailto:shumanhw@gmail.com)

*Can satisfy GA Dept of Education courses such as 23.06100, 23.06200, 23.06700.*

*Discuss options with instructor.*

## SEMESTER 1: FOUNDATIONS OF WRITING, SPEAKING, AND LITERARY ANALYSIS

- Practicing various approaches to literary analysis
- Considering contexts of literary works
- Finding theme and purpose in literature
- Identifying and self-correcting writing errors
- Attacking standardized test and college app essays
- Identifying and practicing nonverbal communication signals
- Interacting with guest speakers and mock interviewers
- Preparing the job interview
- Writing poems and a short story

## SEMESTER 2: TAKING A STAND, SPEAKING UP, AND WRITING WITH AUTHORITY

- Solidifying strategies for literary analysis
- Studying one author's poetry in depth (Robert Frost)
- Self-editing to "sound strong"
- Researching and reporting well, using MLA style
- Finding strategies for synthesizing research materials
- Identifying and using persuasive techniques
- Integrating good visuals into speaking
- Finding one's strengths in group communication

**Primary Text:** Laurence Perrine's *Literature: Structure, Sound, and Sense*, Fifth Edition (bright purple cover), ISBN 0155511084.

**Summer reading:** Participation is for extra credit and can contribute to honors designation. Reading may continue during the school year. See [MargaretShuman.com](http://MargaretShuman.com) for instructions and book list.

**Honors Credit:** See link at [www.MargaretShuman.com](http://www.MargaretShuman.com) in the ML course description.

**Late Work Policy:** Students may miss a deadline each semester for any reason and still have an assignment receive a grade with no penalty. After grace is given once each semester, except for extreme situations, late work can only be submitted if a student arranges a conference that fits the schedule of a parent/guardian, Mrs. Shuman, and the student.