



# ALLIANCE TUTORING

**COURSE:** Dystopian Literature and Film

## **Dystopian Course Description:**

In a time when the world is in a sort of crisis as to whether it should rescue itself from annihilation or whether it should elevate its global ambitions to visions of utopia, few genres are as relevant as dystopian. In examining several seminal dystopian novels in *1984* and *Brave New World*, in addition to considering some classic dystopian short stories, this class considers nine key constituent elements of the dystopian genre and the implications to modern society in connection to film, television, music, and popular culture.

The assessments include a creative imitative piece, an analytical essay and personal essay response. The writing and critical thinking skills ask students to see the relevance of the thematic material in these texts in their own personal lives. For all essays, students will practice using MLA style and formatting requirements.

Taught by a highly experienced and successful English teacher from an elite private school, this course will help you build key, foundational skills necessary to excel in any high school English class.

## **MATERIALS:**

The two major texts: *1984* and *Brave New World* would need to be purchased. All diagnostic and practice materials will be taken from free, online sources and/or provided by the instructor in advance of each lesson. For all online sessions, the students should have access to a high-speed internet connection with working microphone and webcam and all students should be able to access zoom.us for lessons. All smartphone apps are also available as downloads for desktop/laptop/tablet computers; no special equipment is required.

## **Dystopian Literature Syllabus**

CLASS #1	CLASS: Introductions/Expectations; Vocabulary; Discussion of major dystopian themes from popular culture HW: Read and annotate <i>1984</i> Part One: I-II (22 pages); Complete Guided Reading Questions
	CLASS: <i>1984</i> discussion; cover terms, people and reading

CLASS #2	HW: Read and annotate 1984 I:III-IV; Complete Reading Questions; Study for Quiz
CLASS #3	CLASS: Quiz on Terms, People, and some reading questions HW: Read and annotate I: V-VII; Complete Reading Questions; Writing response: how do you apply "double-think" in your own life?
CLASS #4	CLASS: 1984 discussion; Vocabulary; response workshop HW: Read and annotate 1:VIII; Complete Reading Questions
CLASS #5	CLASS: 1984 guided passage analysis; reading questions HW: Read and annotate 2:I-III ; Complete Guided Reading Questions; Begin essay on Big Brother, complete an outline with thesis, topic sentences and fully typed out quotations
CLASS #6	CLASS: 1984 reading questions, outlines HW: Read and annotate 2:IV-VII; Complete Reading Questions; Write an introduction for the essay
CLASS #7	CLASS: 1984 reading questions, introduction work-shopping; vocabulary HW: Read and annotate 2:VIII; Complete Reading Questions; write one body paragraph for essay
CLASS #8	CLASS: Body paragraph writing, evidence integration in writing, reading questions HW: Read and annotate 2:IX; Complete Reading Questions; write two more body paragraphs
CLASS #9	CLASS: Discussion of Freudian implications of Orwell's 1984 (Id, Ego, Superego); Writing workshop: analysis of evidence HW: Read and annotate 2:X-3:I; Complete Reading Questions; complete rough draft of essay on Big Brother.
CLASS #10	CLASS: Work-shopping the essay; reading questions on 1984; vocabulary HW: Read and annotate 3:II; Complete Reading Questions; Begin Creative Assignment: imagine social and political system described in 1984 applied to your own life, write one page double-spaced. See assignment sheet.

CLASS #11	<p>CLASS: Creative Writing workshop, reading questions</p> <p>HW: Read and annotate 3:III-IV; Complete Reading Questions; complete another double-spaced page of creative assignment</p>
CLASS #12	<p>CLASS: Creative writing workshop: showing and not telling; reading questions.</p> <p>HW: Read and annotate 3:V-3:VI; Complete Reading Questions; Complete creative writing assignment</p>
CLASS #13	<p>CLASS: Final Discussion of reading questions; Workshop final draft of creative writing piece.</p> <p>HW: Begin Brave New World, Chapters 1-2, pages 15-36; answer guided reading questions</p>
CLASS #14	<p>CLASS: Begin discussion of Brave New World, Chapters 1-2, pages 15-36, guided reading questions; final draft creative piece</p> <p>HW: Read and annotate 3-4 part 1, pages 37-68; Complete your choice of <b>eight</b> questions from the questions provided.</p>
CLASS #15	<p>CLASS: BNW reading questions; watch TED talk clip, discuss</p> <p>HW: Read and annotate 4 part 2 through 6 part 1, pages 68-93; Complete your choice of eight questions from reading questions.</p>
CLASS #16	<p>CLASS: Review names, places, events, concepts; reading questions; Vocabulary</p> <p>HW: Read and annotate 6 part 2 through chapter 7, pages 93-115; review for quiz</p>
CLASS #17	<p>CLASS: Quiz on chapters 1-6, review quiz answers, discussion of text</p> <p>HW: Read and annotate chapter 8-10, pages 116-141; pick <b>six</b> reading questions to answer</p>
CLASS #18	<p>CLASS: BNW discussion, begin watching debate on relevance of <i>1984</i> versus <i>Brave New World</i></p> <p>HW: Read and annotate chapters 11-12, pages 141-169; Begin speech on 1984 versus BNW</p>

CLASS #19	<p>CLASS: BNW speech, discussion of reading, continue watching debate</p> <p>HW: Read and annotate BNW 13-15, pages 170-195; continue speech writing on 1984/BNW</p>
CLASS #20	<p>CLASS: BNW/1984 speech, reading questions, complete watching debate</p> <p>HW: Read and annotate BNW 16-17, pages 196-215; complete rough draft of speech on 1984/BNW</p>
CLASS #21	<p>CLASS: BNW/1984 speech run through, discussion of text, vocabulary</p> <p>HW: Finish BNW, pages 216-231; revise rough draft</p>
CLASS #22	<p>CLASS: Discussion of text, Final speech on 1984/BNW</p> <p>HW: Read and annotate "Harrison Bergeron" by Kurt Vonegut</p>
CLASS #23	<p>CLASS: Guided reading questions on HB, read article from <i>New York Times</i> and discuss.</p> <p>HW: Read and annotate "August 2026: There Will Come Soft Rains" by Ray Bradbury</p>
CLASS #24	<p>CLASS: Guided reading questions on "August 2026"; clip: documentary on Hiroshima and discussion</p> <p>HW: Read and annotate "We ate the Children Last" by Yann Martell; response: compare/contrast short dystopian stories, see assignment sheet.</p>
CLASS #25	<p>CLASS: Guided reading questions on Martell; compare/contrast workshop, farewells</p>