



GRACE & TRUTH
CLASSICAL CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

2026 Academic Year
Course Descriptions

Rhetoric English

This rhetoric-level English course invites students into a literature-rich journey through the 19th and early 20th centuries, guided by the historical framework of Tapestry of Grace Year 3. As learners engage with Romantic, Victorian, American realist, and early modernist texts, they will examine not only literary craft and historical context, but also the spiritual and moral questions that shaped – and were shaped by – these cultural movements. Through structured writing, advanced grammar instruction, and close literary analysis, students will develop skills in argumentation, theme development, and stylistic refinement, all while learning to discern truth, beauty, and virtue through a biblical lens.

Each text is approached with the conviction that literature reflects the heart of its age and offers opportunities for gospel-centered reflection. Learners will grapple with worldview shifts, moral dilemmas, and philosophical tensions, comparing them to the unchanging truths of Scripture. Writing assignments include analytical essays, persuasive compositions, creative responses, and research-based projects, all designed to cultivate clarity, conviction, and Christ-honoring expression. SAT preparation is seamlessly integrated through grammar drills, vocabulary drawn from literary texts, and strategies for reading comprehension and timed writing.

This course equips students not only for academic excellence and college readiness, but also for thoughtful engagement with the ideas and values that continue to shape our world – grounded in the authority of God’s Word.

Credits: 1 English Credit

Student Preparation: Students will complete assigned readings, grammar practice, and writing assignments weekly. They’ll be expected to participate in discussion groups, compose essays and revise writing with increasing independence and rhetorical sophistication.

Required Textbooks Needed:

Tapestry of Grace Year 3 (covering the 1800s to early 1900s)

- Copies of assigned literary texts (print, digital, or audiobook)
 - The Diary of a Napoleonic Foot Soldier by Jakob Walter
 - William Wordsworth Poetry
 - Frankenstein by Mary Shelley
 - Les Misérables by Victor Hugo (selected chapters)
 - The Scarlet Letter by Nathaniel Hawthorne
 - The Adventures of Tom Sawyer by Mark Twain
 - Emily Dickenson Poetry
 - Great Expectations by Charles Dickens (selected chapters)
 - Crime and Punishment by Fyodor Dostoevsky (selected chapters)
 - The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde by Robert Louis Stevenson
 - Circles in the Forest by Dalene Matthee
- Grammar and writing resources
- Tapestry of Grace Writing Aids
- G&T Rhetoric English Student Workbook
- Internet access for supplemental materials and submissions



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Additional Resources:

- Vocabulary study apps
- Literary podcasts and author biographies
- Peer editing guides and rubrics
- Timeline charts to link historical and literary developments

Assessments: In the Rhetoric English course, assessments are thoughtfully structured to build mastery and foster critical thinking across reading, grammar, and writing. Weekly tasks ensure consistent practice and reflection. Every few weeks, unit-based assessments – including formal essays and literature analysis papers – offer deeper engagement with historical texts and themes, aligned with the Tapestry of Grace framework. Rubrics and submission guidelines support clarity, autonomy, and accountability throughout.