

C. S. Lewis Major Works
One-Semester Course
(Course of Study Scope and Sequence
by Dr. Sharon Bridwell and Mrs. Naomi Neuman)

SCOPE OF CONTENT

Dr. Bridwell and Mrs. Neuman have written a high school literature course that will help prepare the college-bound student for most 200 to 300 series literature classes. Students are expected to work at the college level in their writing skills, assignments, exams, oral sharing, and book reviews/special projects throughout the semester. **Assignments will average 3-4+ typed pages a week. On average, students may take from 6-8+ hours a week to prepare for normal assignments and 4+ hours for writing brief book reviews—outside of time spent reading the material. The exact number of hours depends on how fast the student reads, comprehends, and writes.** Students weekly complete written assignments that include responding to essay questions, student findings, author themes and literary motifs for some books, and unique projects related to a couple of the books. The course allows students to review all major areas of literary study in preparation for college placement and advanced placement exams and allows students to develop critical analysis skills within the literary genres of philosophy, theology, apologetics, mythology, and fiction.

SCOPE OF PRESENTATION

The C. S. Lewis Major Works course is presented as a live video -conference class, meeting once a week online for 1.5 hours. Students submit all assignments directly to Mrs. Neuman for grading, critiquing, and comment. To excel in this particular class, students must meet a tough grading standard and produce all work on time. **Students cannot fall behind in this class and remain in it; we move along too quickly.** If questions arise, students contact Mrs. Neuman by email or phone. Mrs. Neuman strives to keep in constant touch with her students and their parents.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Mrs. Neuman expects students to attend each weekly class, log in promptly, and maintain a working microphone. If a family knows their student must miss a particular class because of a mission trip, debate tournament, conference, family commitment, or another reason, the family should contact Mrs. Neuman early to obtain class materials so the student can submit assignments before the due date. Students should work ahead whenever possible rather than fall behind. Although Mrs. Neuman plans to record weekly class sessions, these do not take the place of live classes. As The Potter's School's policy states, "If for any reason a student plans to miss or ends up missing more than three live class sessions in a semester, the family must obtain concurrence from the teacher and director for the student to continue in the course. We will consider more general exceptions with prior approval, particularly for overseas students with limited Internet connections." Mrs. Neuman reserves the right to grant extensions and excused absences at her discretion.

SCOPE OF EXAMS

Students take two exams, a midterm and a final. These exams cover class notes, book quotes, themes, and literary elements. The format for each exam is short answer and full essay response. Each college-level exam takes two hours to complete.

SCOPE OF C. S. LEWIS MAJOR WORKS COURSE

Goals:

Mrs. Neuman has the following goals for this class—students will:

1. Examine five major works of C. S. Lewis.
2. Familiarize themselves with literary terms used at the college level.
3. Discover and understand aesthetic, philosophical, theological, apologetic, and mythological thinking of C. S. Lewis.
4. Gain valuable analytical and writing skills for college.
5. Apply writing techniques learned from Lewis to their own writing.
6. Learn effective methods for reading and exploring C. S. Lewis's nonfiction and fiction works.

Objectives:

Mrs. Neuman has the following objectives for this class—for students to:

1. Improve critical reading and peer critique skills.
2. Polish writing and literary analysis skills.
3. Discuss, explore, and evaluate the Christian worldview and aesthetic principles of C. S. Lewis.
4. Identify author themes, literary motifs, and critical thinking issues, evaluating them based on Lewis's own standards of literary criticism.
5. Evaluate how well Lewis met what he considered essential critical points in a literary work.
6. Identify and evaluate key Christian points of agreement and debate in C. S. Lewis's nonfiction and fiction within a mature, objective structure.
7. Write college-level book reviews and analytical essays on Lewis's works.

C. S. LEWIS KEY WORKS COURSE SEQUENCE

First Semester:

Week 1: Introduction to C. S. Lewis/Literary Terms/Intro to *Surprised by Joy*

Week 2: Cover *Surprised by Joy*

Week 3: Cover *Surprised by Joy*

Week 4: Intro to *Mere Christianity*

Week 5: Cover *Mere Christianity*

Week 6: Cover *Mere Christianity*

Week 7: Cover *Mere Christianity*

Week 8: Intro *Screwtape Letters*/Midterm Exam

Week 9: Cover *Screwtape Letters*

Week 10: Cover *Screwtape Letters*

Week 11: Intro to *The Great Divorce*
Week 12: Cover *The Great Divorce*
Week 13: Cover *The Great Divorce*
Week 14: Intro to *Till We Have Faces*
Week 15: Cover *Till We Have Faces*
Week 16: Cover *Till We Have Faces*
Week 17: Final Exam

COURSE MATERIALS LIST

Software: Students must use MS Word to write all their assignments in this course. Mrs. Neuman only accepts assignments uploaded in .doc or .docx format.

Required Books: *Surprised by Joy*, *Mere Christianity*, *The Screwtape Letters*, *The Great Divorce*, and *Till We Have Faces*.

You can order the books for this class from the TPS virtual bookstore (<http://direct.mbsbooks.com/pottersschool.htm>), any local Christian bookstore, or even a used bookstore. Because students will mark them up, I would try to find them used.

If a sibling has already taken this course, please purchase unmarked used or new books for your child. Otherwise, your child has the advantage of someone else's hard work.