

Course Description: **High School Literature** Grades 9-12 2025-2026

Illuminating Literature: Characters in Crisis is a 1-year high school Literature course written from a Christian perspective. Students will read four novels, one play, and an assortment of short stories which are arranged around the literary element of characters. Students will get an in-depth view of stories based on the characters' crises, how they resolve them, and how they are changed by them. Students will also gain appreciation for fine literature as they learn one of the most powerful tools authors use to influence their thinking: the empathetic character. This course will guide your teens to compare and contrast certain books and characters they will read here. Students will learn 100 literary terms and devices as they naturally occur in our selections. Both college prep students and reluctant readers will benefit from this engaging literature course.

Texts needed: *Illuminating Literature: Characters in Crisis* Student Textbook by Sharon Watson

Novels needed:

Note: This course specifically uses the following editions; please be careful to have the approved versions since lessons refer to specific page #s in these books.

These are available on christianbook.com or on Sharon Watson's website: writingwithsharonwatson.com

***Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley, Dover Publications**

***Silas Marner* by George Eliot, Dover Publications**

***Much Ado About Nothing* by William Shakespeare, Dover Publications**

***Sense and Sensibility* by Jane Austen, Dover Publications**

Biography or autobiography of student's choice

***The Hobbit* by J. R. R. Tolkien, Mariner Books**

Cost of class does not include supplies or texts.

Teacher: Mrs. Teresa Kern

Cost: \$405/year

60 min. class

Thursdays, 9:30-10:30 am, at Chesterfield Presbyterian Church

9Up Student orientation: Aug. 14, 2025 Time TBA

Fall semester: Aug. 21, 2025 to Nov. 20, 2025

Winter semester: Jan. 8, 2026 to April 16, 2026

This class will be cancelled if it does not reach a minimum of 5 students.

Mrs. Teresa Kern is a certified teacher with a BS in Education. She has taught in Catholic, public, and Christian schools, as well as homeschooling her own sons for many years. She has also taught Science and Communication at the elementary levels at HSN and has tutored students at many grade levels. Teaching high schoolers is one of her most favorite things to do!