



Unit 1: Introduction to Crime and Punishment

15 Days	In Unit 1, students will analyze and interpret their own experiences with crime and punishment. With a specific focus on Hammurabi's Code and phrenology, students will also understand a variety of the earliest origins of crime and criminology. Through class discussion and formal writing assignments, students will put forth arguments regarding the multiple motivations behind crime and share personal anecdotes, when appropriate. Furthermore, students will begin their study of modern crimes and the purpose of punishment in our society.
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Unit 2: Ancient Greece: *Oedipus Rex* and *Antigone*

20 Days	In Unit 2, students will begin to learn how the ancient Greeks viewed crime and punishment. Through various punishments in the literature, students will see what the ancient Greeks valued in terms of culture and civilization. Throughout both plays, students will understand how Sophocles intertwines the motif of blindness within the framework of crime and punishment. In addition, students will analyze and interpret the central conflict between moral law and state law; they will then provide and write about modern examples of the same conflict.
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Unit 3: Hell: The Devil's Domain

20 Days

In Unit 3, students will learn how the theme of crime and punishment has been treated in the most famous literature of hell. Perhaps the best example of the course's theme, Dante's *Inferno* introduces students to the concept of *contrapasso* (symbolic retribution, or, the notion of "the punishment fits the crime"). Students will analyze how the suffering in hell relates symbolically to the earthly crimes that people commit. The "Dean Dante" project will allow students to apply the notion of *contrapasso* to life at Reavis. In Milton's *Paradise Lost*, students will study the war in heaven and analyze and refute/defend Satan's rationale for warring with God.



Unit 4: Agatha Christie's *And Then There Were None*

20 Days

Through the framework of an intriguing murder mystery, students will conclude their study of crime and punishment. Students will formulate--or revisit--their working definition of justice before launching into the novel. As they read the novel, students will play the role of detectives as they gather evidence and record it in a casebook. The conclusion of the novel, Justice Wargrave's confession, provides one of the best examples of "justice" in the course. Students will analyze the psychology behind Wargrave's form of justice and either defend or refute his decision.