

The Literature of War

<http://www.poets.org/viewmedia.php/prmMID/17109>

by Harvey Starbuck
Olathe High School, Olathe, Colorado

Grade Level: 10 - 12

Unit Length: 8 - 16 Class Periods

Unit Overview

"The Literature of War," taught by rural Colorado teacher Harvey Starbuck, uses the poetry segment of his class by the same name as an introduction to poetry for students who may not have had the opportunity for meaningful poetry exploration in the past. Students begin by developing a poetic vocabulary through the study of a single poem and move to more complex readings in the remaining four lesson plans. Students pursue an examination of the effects of war on those involved in the fighting and those they leave behind, moving chronologically through time with subsequent lesson plans. The unit concludes by looking at the world's most recent acts of war, the effects and ramifications of the events on and following September 11, through the reading of poems written since that date. As a culminating activity, students are asked to respond with a poem of their own that they illustrate with relevant images found on the web. All poems are accessible online.

Quick Links

[Unit Narrative](#)
[Introduction](#)
[Assignment 1: A Starting Point](#)
[Assignment 2: The Soldier](#)
[Assignment 3: At Home](#)
[Assignment 4: Contemporary Issues](#)
[Assignment 5: Poetry Final](#)
[Teaching Strategies](#)

- See more at:

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