

# Great Books Lesson Plans



2002



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This high school Literature course was created in 2002 for my daughter to read and analyze "Great" books that have influenced our world positively or negatively.

This is not a product.

We are just sharing our own notes to inspire you in your own lesson planning.

I used classic books and we discussed the books together. I tried to read them, too.

Warmly,  
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## Course Requirements for



# Great Books



## Books to Read

*Works (Poetics, Ethics, Politics)* by Aristotle  
*Advancement of Learning* by Francis Bacon (Nov)  
*Institutes of the Christian Religion* by John Calvin  
*Origin of Species* by Charles Darwin (Nov)  
*Notebooks* Leonardo DaVinci  
*Democracy in America* by Alexis DeTocqueville  
*Democracy and Education* by John Dewey  
*The Meaning of Relativity* by Albert Einstein  
*The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire* by Edward Gibbon  
*Medical Writing* by Hippocrates  
*Federalist Papers* by Jay, Madison, and Hamilton  
*Anti-Federalist Papers* by Jefferson,  
*Some Thoughts Concerning Education* by John Locke (Nov)  
*The Second Treatise of Government* by John Locke (Feb)  
*Three Treatises* by Martin Luther  
*First Principles of the Reformation* by Martin Luther (Includes three Treatises)  
*The Prince* by Machiavelli  
*A Communist Manifesto* by Karl Marx (Sept)  
*Dialogues (The Republic, Symposiuyum, Sophist, Phaedrus)* by Plato (Feb)  
*Lives of Noble Grecians and Romans* by Plutarch  
*The Social Contract* by Rousseau  
*Lex Rex* by Samuel Rutherford  
*Wealth of the Nations* by Adam Smith (Sept)  
*City of God* by St. Augustine (Oct)  
*Confessions* by St. Augustine (Oct)  
*Summa Theologica* by St. Thomas Aquinas  
*Cancer Ward* by Aledsandr Slzhenitsyn  
*The Aims of Education* by Alfred North Whitehead

## Assignments

Read *Reading Between the Lines* and discuss book with Mom.  
Choose one-two books to read each month (some are already suggested)

Fill out book report sheet for each book read.

Discuss one-on-one with Mom each book read.

Write two evaluative books reports on the writer's philosophies for two different books of your choice.

## Grading

To get a B grade, you must read 8-10 books and articulate the author's philosophies. Written work must be of high quality.

To get an A grade, you must read 12-15 books and articulate the author's philosophies, as well as your own. Written work must be excellent.



## Great Books

### Assignment

### Compl

### Time took

Read Reading Between the Lines

Discuss with Mom

Read

Discuss

Fill out book report sheet

Read

Discuss

Fill out book report sheet

Read

Discuss

Fill out book report sheet

Read

Discuss

Fill out book report sheet

Read

Discuss

Fill out book report sheet

Read

Discuss

Fill out book report sheet

Read

Discuss

Fill out book report sheet

Read

Discuss

Fill out book report sheet

Read

Discuss

Write evaluative book report on writers' philosophy

Read

Discuss

Write evaluative b.r. on writers' philosophy

Read

Discuss

Fill out book report sheet

Read

Discuss

Fill out book report sheet

Read

Discuss

Fill out book report sheet

Read

## Questions about Aristotle's *Politics*

Aristotle was a pagan philosopher, the student of Plato, who was the student of Socrates. He was a tutor to Alexander the Great, son of Philip II of Macedonia.

Thomas Aquinas, a Roman Catholic theologian, tried to weave together Christianity and Aristotle's philosophies. For centuries, Aristotle's views were highly regarded. In the Renaissance, Plato's writings became more popular.

**As you read *Politics* by Aristotle, what worldview does he have?**

**What clues you in to this worldview?**

**What is true in the things that Aristotle writes in *Politics*? What is untrue?**

**How would his theories have brought harm to Christendom? Did they?**

## Questions about Adam Smith's *Wealth of the Nations*

This book was published in 1776, the same year our Declaration of Independence was signed. This book is considered to be "THE Free Market Textbook."

As you read *Wealth of the Nations* by Adam Smith, what worldview does he have?

What clues you in to this worldview?

What truth do you find in *Wealth of the Nations*?

What is the "Invisible Hand"?

Do Adam Smith's principles of economics work in real life? Why or why not?



# Great Books Hours Check off


We hope you enjoyed these "Good Old Days" lesson plans that we used to homeschool our children years ago. They are compliments of Powerline Productions.

## Our Websites



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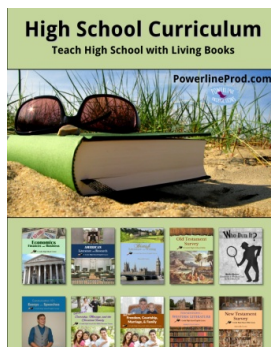
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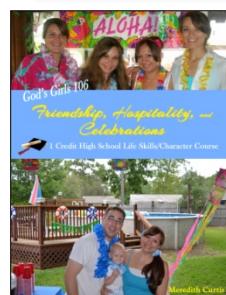
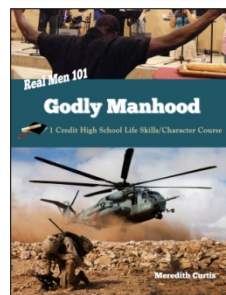
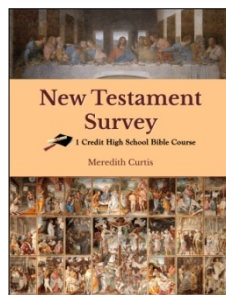
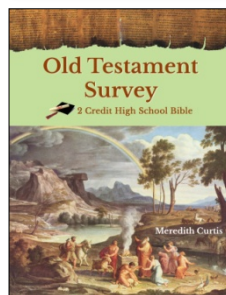
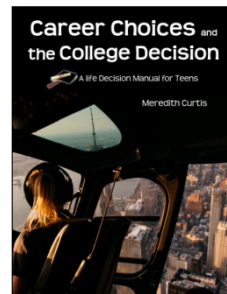
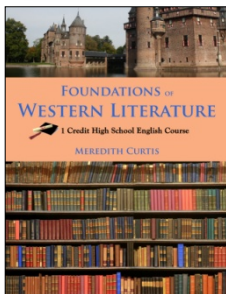
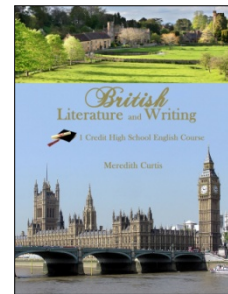
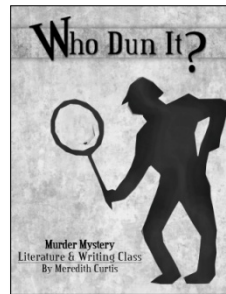
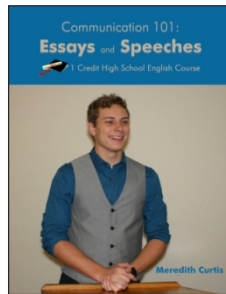
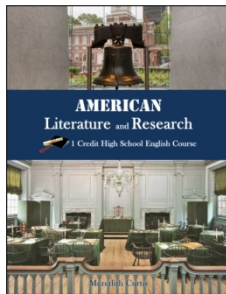
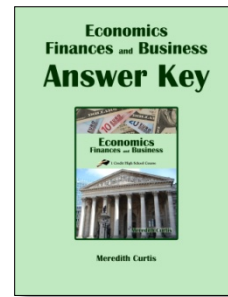
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