

MESSAGE TO SEND TO YOUR MEMBERS

Dear Homeschooling Families,

My name is Dr. David Byers, Ph.D. I am a homeschooling father, author, college professor, and an expert in education at all levels. I have had the honor of serving the educational needs of homeschooling families around the U.S. and around the world for more than five years now by offering affordable courses through my business Leadership for You.

- I believe strongly in the importance of education at all levels.
- I believe that learning should be interesting, informative, exciting, and fun.
- I believe that teachers should also be leaders.
- I believe that leaders should serve the needs of others rather than being served by others.

These are some of the reasons that I offer homeschoolers some FREE courses in addition to the courses I offer through my business.

I offered my first FREE course about 2 years ago, as a *service* to homeschoolers when I started offering “Introduction to Poetry” for students in grades 9-12. That course is a one-semester course worth ½ credit for high school English. When the student successfully completes the course, I send an official transcript that parents can use for their records and as part of the paperwork when their child applies to a university or college.

Because the Poetry course has been very popular with students and parents alike, I decided to offer more free courses.

These courses are absolutely free! There is no tuition, no fees, no contracts, no future obligations, and no materials to purchase! And, there are no obligations to take more courses at any time. In short, there’s no catch!

However, there is a limit of ONE free course, per child semester. If families have more than one child who wants to take a FREE course, each child may take one of the courses.

Students do not have to be online at any specific day or time to “attend” their class. I work individually with each student via email.

For more information and for a registration form, please email me at dbyers3131@gmail.com

Thank you,

David Byers, Ph.D.

- **Introduction to Poetry** is a full, one-semester course for students in grades 9-12. Parents may also take the course just for themselves. The course is free for parent or child.
 - **Course Length and Credit:** The course runs for 15 weeks for ½ credit in high school English. Once the student successfully completes the course with a passing grade, a formal transcript for the course will be sent at no cost.
 - **Course Description:** Students complete a variety of assignments in each week of the course to learn about poetry. The assignments include learning about, reading, analyzing, and writing different types/styles of poetry. Students analyze multiple pieces of written work to learn the differences between poetry and prose and then practice converting prose writing into poetry and vice versa. Students learn about the rhythm and rhyming sequences of poetry. Students compare poems written about the same/similar topic to evaluate and rank them. Utilizing their favorite songs, students analyze and evaluate the lyrics given their knowledge of poetry and prose. The types of poems included in this course: Acrostic, Ballads, Cinquain, Couplet, Eulogy, Free Verse, Haiku, Life Advice (Philosophical), Personification, Psalms, Quatrains, Response, Rhyming, Sonnets, and Tanka.
 - **Course Purpose:** Poetry is fast becoming a lost subject in the United States, if not throughout the world, because people don't understand its value in education! Often homeschooling parents are afraid they don't know how to teach poetry and their children are afraid they won't understand poems they read, or worse yet, that they'll have to write poetry! Yet, many youths are exposed to poetry on a daily basis. In fact, it's often an important part of their lives without even realizing it. How so? Music lyrics! While not all poetry can be set to music, most music lyrics are typically poetic—providing inspiration and causing a wide range of emotions about numerous topics! Understanding poetry helps students develop their critical thinking and analytical skills, as well as their creativity and innovative abilities—all of which are in high demand in colleges and businesses throughout the United States. In addition, poetry helps students develop their prose writing skills. All of this is possible because poetry views and describes the world around us in ways that prose often fails to properly express. Comparing the same information written in prose with how it can be written in poetry and vice versa is an eye-opener for even the most skeptical student. Poetry provides the mental insights that are invaluable no matter what career a student plans to pursue. For students who want to be writers, poetry needs to be an essential aspect of their education.
 - **Course Delivery Method:** The course is conducted entirely via email using materials provided by the instructor. Students do not need to be “online” at any particular time or date as they are working asynchronously. Students take the course individually with the instructor and not as a group so the student gets individualized attention.

- **World History Scavenger Hunt Mini Course is for students in grades 7-8.**
 - **Course Length and Credit:** The course runs 5 weeks. It does not earn high school credit as it is a mini-course designed for junior high students.
 - **Course Description:** In this course, students go on a “scavenger hunt” to learn about a wide variety of interesting, amazing, and even unique topics relative to world history and geography. The scavenger hunt is conducted online using web sites that are hand selected by the instructor to ensure they are appropriate for homeschooled students. On each site, students need to find information about one or more topics noted in the assignments each week, which is an excellent method for teaching students how to conduct research via the Internet. The students then write a summary of what they learned about each week’s topics using a 5-paragraph essay format, which is a terrific method for students to practice the writing skills that are vital for success in high school, college, and life. Parents may elect to have the instructor grade their child’s assignments or not. Parents may also decide whether or not to have the instructor provide gentle and constructive edits and feedback about their child’s writing. Parents may also decide if they want their child to revise any essays based on the initial feedback from the professor.
 - **Course Purpose:** The purpose of the course is to help students prepare for high school and college by being excited about learning in general, but also to be excited to learn about our fascinating world and its history. History is often studied via a memorization/testing approach, which leaves students disliking and finding history boring rather than what it is, which is truly fascinating and exciting. So, to make the learning fun and worthwhile, in this course we don’t focus on just one topic nor do we work through history chronologically. Instead, students will be given resources with which they will do a bit of “time traveling” each week without really knowing when or where they’ll end up until they get there. Once they arrive at each stop in the scavenger hunt, they’ll learn about all sorts of fascinating people, events, dates, and places in our world’s history.
 - **Course Delivery Method:** The course is conducted entirely via email using materials provided by the instructor, as well as by using homeschool family-friendly websites that are pre-selected by the instructor. So, students need to be able to access and use the Internet for the length of the course. And, even though the instructor selects only appropriate websites, there is always the possibility of picking up viruses via cookies or other means—even on the best of sites. In addition, none of the sites selected for the course collect information about you or your child other than the harmless type of “cookies” that most sites use unless your computer is set to reject them. However, just to be safe, it is highly recommended that the computer the student uses has appropriate virus detection and management software. Students do not need to be “online” at any particular time or date as they are working asynchronously. Students take the course individually with the instructor and not as a group so the student gets individualized attention.

- **Science Scavenger Hunt Mini Course is for students in grades 7-8.**
 - **Course Length and Credit:** The course runs 5 weeks. It does not earn high school credit as it is a mini-course designed for junior high students.
 - **Course Description:** In this course, students go on a “scavenger hunt” similar to the one for World History. However, in this scavenger hunt course students will learn about a wide variety of interesting, amazing, and even unique topics relative to Science! The scavenger hunt is conducted online using web sites that are hand selected by the instructor to ensure they are appropriate for homeschooled students. On each site, students need to find information about one or more topics noted in the assignments each week, which is an excellent method for teaching students how to conduct research via the Internet. The students then write a summary of what they learned about each week’s topics using a 5-paragraph essay format, which is a terrific method for students to practice the writing skills that are vital for success in high school, college, and life. Parents may elect to have the instructor grade their child’s assignments or not. Parents may also decide whether or not to have the instructor provide gentle and constructive edits and feedback about their child’s writing. Parents may also decide if they want their child to revise any essays based on the initial feedback from the professor.
 - **Course Purpose:** The purpose of the course is to help students prepare for high school and college by being excited about learning in general, but also to be excited to learn about the incredible world of science—past, present, and future! Science is often taught like history is—memorizing factual information for a test, or answering questions at the end of the chapter the student read, which has its place in learning, but it often leads students feeling bored. So, to make the learning about science fun and worthwhile, students will conduct a scavenger hunt to find all sorts of fascinating information about science.
 - **Course Delivery Method:** The course is conducted entirely via email using materials provided by the instructor, as well as by using homeschool family-friendly websites that are pre-selected by the instructor. So, students need to be able to access and use the Internet for the length of the course. And, even though the instructor selects only appropriate websites, there is always the possibility of picking up viruses via cookies or other means—even on the best of sites. In addition, none of the sites selected for the course collect information about you or your child other than the harmless type of “cookies” that most sites use unless your computer is set to reject them. However, just to be safe, it is highly recommended that the computer the student uses has appropriate virus detection and management software. Students do not need to be “online” at any particular time or date as they are working asynchronously. Students take the course individually with the instructor and not as a group so the student gets individualized attention.