

British Literature

2010-11

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Course Description

British Literature is a survey course which encompasses major prose and poetry of English writers spanning the periods from Anglo-Saxon to modern/contemporary. Our goal is to acquire an understanding of the ideas and literary genres that define these periods and to build a foundation for advanced studies in English literature. All readings will be considered in a literary and historical context so that the student will gain an understanding of the historical, cultural and philosophical influences that shape the texts. Students will express their understanding of key concepts through class discussions, writing assignments, and a midterm and final exam.

Required Textbooks

McDougal Littell Anthology of British Literature

Additional Outside reading: To Be Announced

Accelerated Reader

Students will continue Chinese Christian Schools' Accelerated Reader program with a goal 60 points for the year. Students will complete their AR reading requirements through assigned class readings during the school year and will earn their AR points through in-class quizzes and writing assignments.

Required Materials

3-ring binder with pockets on the inside front and back covers. **This binder will be dedicated to British Literature and will not be shared with other classes.**

Highlighter(s)

Black or blue ink pens. Other colors OK as long as they are readable and do not smear.

Green and red pens for correcting papers

#2 pencils—mechanical preferred

8 1/2 x 11-inch college ruled loose leaf paper

spiral notebook

Writing projects for the year will include several process papers, micro-essays and reflections, as well as responses to novel-specific prompts.

Tentative Course Outline

Semester 1:

Lion's Club Essays and Speeches

Unit 1: Anglo Saxon & Medieval

Unit 2: English Renaissance

Unit 3: Restoration and the 18th Century

Semester 2:

Unit 4: Romanticism

Unit 5: Victorian Period

Unit 6: Modern & Contemporary

** The novels chosen to complement the anthology will be assigned throughout the year and their placement will be determined according to pace and workload.*

Grading:

Quarter Grade:

45% Essays

20 % Tests, Quizzes

15% Homework, Classwork

15% Project

5% Participation

Semester Grade

85% Quarter Grades

10% Final Exam

5% AR

Class Discipline

Promptness and Preparation for Class

When the bell rings, you are expected:

- to be ready to begin class. Students who arrive late without a pass will be marked tardy. Late arrivals are disruptive to the class and an overall distraction. Please try to manage your time to minimize tardies.
- to have whatever materials are needed—pens, pencils, books, binders, and homework assignments. Please bring your British Literature binder and anthology

to every class. Except in an emergency, please do not ask to go to your locker to retrieve these items.

- to have already turned in homework—place it in stacks on my table. You will know what is due by looking at the schedule on the whiteboard. I will not remind you to turn in homework, so please take the initiative. For essays, do not paper clip them or fold down one corner to hold the pages together.
- to **read the whiteboard** daily for assignments, due dates, changes in the schedule, and any other miscellaneous information. The schedule should be copied from the board immediately after entering the classroom.
- to **show respect** to *every* individual in the classroom

Rules for Written Work

1. Use standard school heading on **8 1/2 x 11-inch** paper. **Leave margins on both sides of the paper.** Assignment title should always be written in the center of the paper under the standard heading. A standard school heading includes your name, class, due date, and type of assignment (test, quiz, timed write, rough draft, or final draft.):

Name
AP Lit

Due Date
Assignment

2. All rough and final drafts of writing assignments, as well as any journal writes must be:

Typewritten
Times New Roman #12 font
1 1/4-inch margins
double-spaced

3. Handwriting is a critical element of this class. Illegible assignments will be returned to you and will not receive credit.

4. All essays (both rough and final drafts) must be submitted to www.turnitin.com. Essays not submitted to turnitin.com will receive **50 percent credit maximum**.

Rules for Late and Missing Work

The following policies will govern late and missing work:

Students are responsible to turn in assignments on time—watch the whiteboard for due dates.

If you know you will be absent on the date an assignment is due, you are responsible to turn it in **before** leaving or the assignment will be marked late.

Late work due to an unexpected, excused absence (such as illness) may be made up without penalty within one day of the absence. (Contact me in advance if you think you will have difficulty with a deadline.)

Scores for major assignments (any assignment worth more than 20 points), such as projects and process essays, will decrease 10 percent for the first day late and 5 percent for each day thereafter.

All other late work (any assignment worth 20 points or less), such as homework assignments or study guides, will be reduced 25 percent for the first day late and an additional 10 percent for each day thereafter.

All late work must be turned in by the cut-off date announced in class. All missing work will receive a 25 percent F.

If you experience computer or printer problems, you are still responsible to turn your assignment in on the day it is due. If you need to use the school's printer, you must plan ahead. Other options include e-mailing your assignment to a friend and asking him or her to print it for you.

Other Potential Problem Areas

Plagiarism (using the words of another without attribution) will absolutely **not** be tolerated. Any plagiarized work will receive an automatic zero percent F and disciplinary referral.

Cheating in any form will absolutely **not** be tolerated. Students who cheat will receive an automatic zero percent F and a disciplinary referral.

In Conclusion

My expectation is that you will do your best. This includes reading the literature, staying current with assignments, and avoiding procrastination—especially on major projects. I am ready and available for conferences, but it is your responsibility to approach me if you need additional help. You may make an appointment to see me before school, during lunch, or via e-mail.

If there is disagreement or confusion about a grade or class policy, please **write me a note** outlining your concerns. I want you to feel you have been assessed fairly, but I do not want to take up class time discussing grades. If necessary, you may make an appointment to see me before school or during lunch. I reserve the right to have the final say in a grade.