

**Department:** English

**Course Name:** Messy. Evil. Iconic.

**Course Description:**

In this engaging 8th grade English elective, students will dive into the minds of literature's most infamous villains. From Maleficent to the Big Bad Wolf, we'll explore what makes a villain tick and how their perspectives shape the stories we know. Students will analyze famous antagonists, examining their motives, backstories, and the line between evil and misunderstood. Through close reading, group discussion, and creative writing, students will gain a deeper understanding of narrative voice and character development. We'll question whether villains are born or made, and challenge ourselves to consider their actions from new angles. The course will culminate in a creative writing project where students craft an original origin story or a first-person point-of-view narrative from a classic villain. Are you ready to tell the untold story of the villain?

**Content:**

Greek Mythology

Class Discussions

Written Response to Literature

Small Group Discussions

Literary Elements and Application

Text Annotation

**Skills:**

Reading analysis

Analyze theme of myths

Cite strong textual evidence to support analysis and opinions

Identify symbols and explain their meanings

Explain the cultural significance

Engage and respond appropriately to informal class discussions and question/answer sessions

Express an understanding and analysis of class readings through written response

**Methods of Instruction:**

**Methods of Evaluation:**

Quizzes

Projects/Presentations

Written Response

Discussion Participation