

**Department:** English

**Course Name:** British Literature

**Course Description:**

This course is a chronological and thematic study of British Literature. The course prepares students for college-level writing and literary inquiry, using differentiated learning styles. To meet this end, a variety of learning opportunities are offered, including small and large group discussions, debates, media presentations, role-playing, peer editing and the occasional lecture. The course provides a forum whereby students interact with literature on a personal level as they build upon previous language skills in grammar, vocabulary, and composition. They write both expressively and analytically in response to the literature studied and personal experiences. Writing activities take the form of literary analysis, personal essay, and creative writing. They review and further hone their research skills as they produce an extensive research paper. Required of all tenth graders.

**Content:**

Literary analysis in thematic, cultural, and historical contexts  
Selecting and reading a book chosen from an extensive list of significant world authors  
Skills essential in preparation for the SAT and PSAT (vocabulary, paragraph and sentence analysis)  
Writing skills used in personal, critical, expository, and creative writing  
Writing portfolio showing progress in essential skills  
Computer and digital resources for research, writing, and presentations  
Oral presentations

**Skills:**

Respond appropriately to informal class discussion/question-answer sessions  
Develop oral presentation skills (posture, pace, volume, articulation, eye contact) for a variety of rhetorical modes  
Read orally with fluency and expression  
Use presentation technology  
Read and comprehend poetry and prose  
Demonstrate knowledge that reflects a variety of genres of major periods, cultures, and eras of literature  
Analyze author purpose  
Show ability to adapt the writing process to one's own unique learning and writing styles  
Write reflectively, creatively and analytically in various forms  
Respond to prompts  
Analyze online and print sources to determine their validity  
Develop a personal voice and powerful, expressive diction  
Research and complete a research project with a thesis statement, outline, transitions, and conclusion, citing sources correctly  
Show understanding of issues of originality and plagiarism  
Use technology to write and create original work—creative and analytical in nature

**Text and Materials:**

*Beowulf*

Geoffrey Chaucer, *Canterbury Tales*

William Shakespeare, *Macbeth*

Alan Moore, *V for Vendetta*

George Orwell, *1984*

Reed, Daniel A., *Vocabulary Power Plus for College and Career Readiness*, Prestwick House, Clayton, DE., 2014

\*Various ancillary and secondary texts in combination with primary texts

**Methods of Instruction:**

Writing portfolio (Digital)

Assignments using the writing process

Research paper

Small and large group discussions

Journal writing for reflection and analysis

Vocabulary workbook

21<sup>st</sup> Century technology: Nearpod, Formative, Flipgrid, etc.

**Methods of Evaluation:**

Tests and Quizzes

Essays and creative writing using rubrics for evaluation

Writing portfolios

Self-assessment, peer assessment

