

British Literature Syllabus

Ms. E. Santoro
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Office hours:
Period 5
After school until 2:30

We will be studying British Literature from the Anglo-Saxon Period – the close of the English Renaissance. An introduction to British Literature further develops the six aspects of English/Literature Arts: Reading writing, speaking, listening and viewing. The reading component emphasizes an appreciation of early Anglo-Saxon literature in its various forms, as well as the writings of Chaucer and Shakespeare. Here the development of the English language, in both literary and historical context, is traced from its beginning to the English Renaissance. The writing component includes a portfolio and stresses the use of composition as a personal response to literature using textual references for both poetry and prose.

Please use school e-mail to communicate with me and check Progress Book frequently.

Approved anthologies are:

- Elements of Literature, Sixth Course
- Prentice Hall Black Anthology: *The British Tradition*
- Globe Literature, Gold Level

Required readings:

- *Beowulf*
- *The Canterbury Tales* by Geoffrey Chaucer
- A Shakespearean Tragedy by William Shakespeare
- A 19th Century British Novel
- A 20th Century Novel
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Anglo Saxons (449-1066) - History

The Arrival of the Hero

Unferth's Challenge

The Battle with Grendel (worksheets for sections 8-10)

Monster's Mother

Final Battle

Excerpts from *Genesis* - The Bible is a notable text worth examination because it is found everywhere in the language people speak. It is also prominently evident in the art, literature (allusion), and music of Western culture. It has influenced law and politics and in the United States, its characters, narratives, teachings, and other elements have had important role in American history and culture.

The Middle Ages (1066-1485) - History

Excerpt from Gilgamesh (worksheets)

The Canterbury Tales by **Geoffrey Chaucer**

Prologue

Nun's Priest's Tale

Pardoner's Tale

Arthurian Legend

Sir Gawain and the Green Knight

The Renaissance (1485-1660) - History

William Shakespeare

Sonnets 29 and 116

The Tragedy of *Macbeth* Acts I - V

Required per each marking period:

A minimum of two short stories

A minimum of two contemporary non-fiction pieces

1 memorization, presented to the class

Black History Month research project

Research on a poet

Newspaper article

SAT vocabulary words introduced and tested every other week.

Literary terms – We will explore at least 80 of these.

Grammar review

British Literature - Marking Periods 1 and 2

After mid-terms, we will begin a different curriculum, which will cover one of the following:

Shakespeare, Poetry, Short Story, Mystery, Minority Literature

The Writing Process-multiple draft writing

Extensive use of rubrics, including self-evaluation

At least 1 project per marking period

At least 1 outside reading per marking period

During this year, you will complete a writing portfolio. This will consist of many writing samples and multi-draft writing. Completion of a comprehensive senior biography project is expected.

What if I miss a class?

If you are absent on a particular day, it is your responsibility to get your own work. It is up to you to check Progress Book and ask your friends or classmates what work you missed. You will have a minimum of 3 business days to turn it in – nothing will be accepted beyond that point. If you miss a quiz or test, make an appointment with me for SS or a time mutually convenient to both of us.

What if I have a late assignment?

It is the expectation that all assignments will be turned in on the due date. NO assignments will be accepted after 3 days, unless there are extenuating circumstances. *Never* put anything on my desk.

Grading Scale

Tests 20%

Quiz 15%

Essays 20%

Projects 20%

Class work 10%

Homework 5%

Attendance 5%

Preparation/participation 5%

Core Values and Beliefs:

The students, faculty, staff, and administration of Wilby High School will work cooperatively with families, members of the community, and the Board of Education to create a safe, welcoming, and academic environment which embraces, challenges, and nurtures the diverse talents, interests, and learning styles of all its students. All students will leave Wilby High School with the self-respect, respect for others, knowledge, and skills necessary to become independent, intellectually curious, and self-fulfilled members of society.