

12th Grade British Literature

Course Syllabus

Instructor: Dana Hall
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Welcome to your senior year and to British Literature. It is my hope that during the course of this semester you will gain and develop a better understanding of the structure and meaning of the works of British Literature we will read and study. To gain a deeper understanding to literature of the time period your participation and commitment is essential. You **MUST** read in a literature class to gain understanding. You will be required to read in and outside of class. Reading is the key to success in this class.

Course Objectives: During the semester you will be able to:

- Improve reading, writing, speaking, and test-taking skills
- Become familiar with a variety of authors, literary works, styles, and genres
- Identify and apply literary terms to analyze and interpret literature
- Develop speech and writing skills with special emphasis on workplace skills
- Develop analytical and critical thinking skills
- Develop Language Arts skills as dictated by the Georgia Performance Standards

Course Articulation with Columbus Technical College:

A class grade of 85 or higher will earn articulated credit for English 101 at Columbus Technical College.

Required Materials:

- Agenda with signed internet access permission form
- A flash drive for saving all computer work
- A 1.5 inch notebook with subject dividers
- A highlighter for note-taking
- Blue or black ink pens only, please
- Pencils for rough draft work and test days

Senior Project:

All seniors will be responsible for completing a senior project, which will incorporate research, writing, and speaking components. This will be a project with a topic of your choice. You will have specific deadlines throughout the semester. Detailed information regarding the senior project will be outlined in a packet given to you the first week of school. You are **required** to have that packet with you at all times in this class. This project is worth **30%** of your overall grade in this class. Completion of this project or an alternate equivalent project will be necessary for passing this class.

Reading Requirements:

You will be expected to bring your literature book to class with you everyday. Not bringing your book to class will result in loss of points toward your daily participation grade in class. Each student will be issued the **Language of Literature** textbook the first week of school. Selected poems, short stories, non-fiction, novels, and essays
Two assigned novels: Frankenstein and Where the Heart Is
One Shakespearean play: MacBeth

Writing Requirements:

Students will be required to write at least 4 formal essays during the semester and also a formal research paper for their senior project. In addition to these essays, the seniors will participate in a writing program entitled, **This I Believe**, which has been a part of National Public Radio since the 1950's. This program encourages people to write essays about what is truly important to them in their lives and what they truly believe in. As seniors, it is time for students to be asking themselves these very important questions. Each student will focus on this essay for the entire semester and at the end of the semester, the students will submit their essays to the program for possible publication. The essay will be counted toward the students' overall project/essay grade in the class.

Vocabulary Requirement:

The students will be exposed to key SAT terms throughout the course of the semester through weekly quizzes on word lists given to them each Monday. Homework will also be assigned twice weekly for the words given. Students are expected to complete these assignments and they will be graded and included in their overall homework average. Test formats will vary measuring spelling as well as word usage. These tests will be given each Friday unless otherwise assigned by the teacher.

Homework, Quizzes, and Exams:

Homework will be assigned three to four times a week and will always be checked. Homework is only utilized to effectively reinforce skills covered in class. Students will be given pop quizzes at any given time. All major exams will be announced two to three days in advance. A review will always occur prior to the exam and at times, study guides will be provided to the students. Students are also encouraged to utilize their homework as a means of practice and study aides. There will be times when some questions on exams and quizzes may come from homework assignments given earlier in the nine weeks.

Grading Policy:

The policy for grading is as follows: Major tests count 40% of the overall grade, Senior project will count 30%, homework will count 10% and class participation(essays, projects, etc.) will count 20%.

Class Rules:

The class rules are posted in the classroom and it is expected that these rules will be followed by all students. The rules are to ensure that every student has the opportunity and the right to learn while they are in the classroom. Students will be given a bathroom pass to use in case of an emergency. This pass gives the students three opportunities to leave the room to use the bathroom during the course of the nine weeks. If the student does not use the pass and remains in class during the nine weeks, the student may drop one of his/her lowest grades(not including major projects and writing assignments) It is important that students limit the amount of time they are outside the classroom. This method is used as an incentive to the students. No student will ever be denied the right to use the restroom or visit the school nurse unless requests become habitual. At that time, a phone call home will be made so that the issue may be discussed.

**I have read and understand the course requirements as outlined by the course syllabus for British Literature. I agree that it is my responsibility to follow the rules and procedures in the classroom.

Student Signature

Date