

# British Literature

Mrs. Rau

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This course will cover British works from the Anglo-Saxon period through the Modern era. Writing and communication skills will be developed through thorough examination and analysis of poetry, drama, short stories, and novels. Each unit is viewed in its historical perspective, and the emphasis is placed on the appreciation of literature. Students are expected to be active readers as they analyze and interpret textual detail, establish connections among their observations, and draw logical inferences toward an interpretive conclusion. Presentations, critical evaluation and analytical papers will be required.

## Course Objectives:

- To promote a strong understanding of and an appreciation for literature
- To identify and understand literary techniques and elements employed by writers
- To identify major forms of literature and understand their elements
- To develop writing skills for focused, insightful, supported and organized essays
- To guide students in becoming skilled listeners and communicators

## Expectations:

- Read and/or complete assigned work before coming to class
- Be prepared to discuss the assigned material. I expect you to not only answer questions about the material, but to have a point of view and raise questions as well.
- Listen to, analyze, and respect ideas from other students.
- Be willing to help others and to be helped.

## Major Works to be Studied:

- *Beowulf*
- *The Canterbury Tales* by Geoffrey Chaucer
- *Mary, Bloody Mary* by Carolyn Meyer
- *Macbeth* by William Shakespeare
- *Great Expectations* by Charles Dickens
- *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding
- *Pygmalion* by George Bernard Shaw
- A plethora of poetry

## Due Dates and Absences:

Students will lose one letter grade each day that an assignment is late. Of course there are sometimes serious extenuating circumstances, and that can be taken into consideration on an individual basis. It is your responsibility to come and talk with me about this promptly. If you miss class, it is YOUR responsibility to follow up on missed classwork, tests and assignments.

Attendance/Participation:

Discussion is an important element of this class, and your participation is needed. By sharing our various reflections and insights we all gain a broader understanding. Because of this, regular attendance is critical to be successful. Also, being tardy without a legitimate excuse will lower your attendance/participation grade.

Grading:

Weighted Grade Categories:

Assignments/exams/quizzes	= 85%
Participation/attendance	= <u>15%</u>
	100%

Grading Scale:

A+ = 99-100%	B+ = 91-92%	C+ = 84-85%	D+ = 76-77%
A = 95-98%	B = 88-90%	C = 80-83%	D = 72-75%
A - = 93-94%	B- = 86-87	C- = 78-79%	D- = 70-71%

Supplies Needed:

- Folder
- Notebook
- Pens, pencils and highlighters
- Computer, charger if needed, and a mouse if preferred
- Flash drive
- Post-its