

Fall 2008: British Literature—Independent Study

Course Unit Value: 1 Carnegie Unit

Ms. Kelly Christopher

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Course Description

This course provides a comprehensive look at British literature, from the Anglo-Saxon period to modern times. Students will gain knowledge of the way in which literature reflects, absorbs, and influences cultural and historical patterns; and how one age and style affects another. Besides learning to identify literary movements, students will become familiar with the intellectual preoccupations of the great British writers. As a class, we will seek the relevance of the topics raised by our reading to our own lives and times, exploring such issues as life and death, love and morality, social responsibility, and so on. We will, additionally, look at contrasting or comparable genres and themes from literature around the world. What’s more, students will be asked to express their well-considered views, either orally or in written form, with correctness, fluidity of expression, and intelligence. Over the course of the semester, students will become close readers and sharp critics. Our work in literature will be supplemented with projects, literary analysis papers, and vocabulary study.

As this course is being offered as an independent study, some alterations to the syllabus may be necessary. Meeting times for this class will be on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Tuesdays and Thursdays may be devoted to the students’ internships and job responsibilities.

Semester Overview

- Unit 1: Renaissance and Neo-Classical Texts
- Unit 2: Anglo-Saxon and Medieval Texts
- Unit 3: Romantic and Victorian Texts
- Unit 4: Modern and Post-Modern Texts

Texts

- Prentice Hall Literature: The British Tradition*
- Macbeth*, William Shakespeare
- A Tale of Two Cities*, Charles Dickens
- And Then There Were None*, Agatha Christie
- The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*, C.S. Lewis

Grading

Course work (which includes exams, projects, homework, and papers)

.....	75%
Final.....	15%
Work Ethic.....	10%

Total.....100%

Expectations

- Students should be aware of the following class guidelines:
- Come to class prepared and on-time.
- Leave all gum, beverages (except water), and food in your locker.
- Electronic devices (cell phones, psp's, ipods, etc.) will be confiscated as per school policy.
- Respect the classroom space, the teacher, and the other students around you.
- In order to make up work missed during an excused absence, students must request the assignments before or after class. Assignments must be returned within one week.
- No other late assignments will be accepted.

Inability to follow the rules may result in private conferences, removal to another classroom for a "time-out," parent/guardian contact, parent/guardian conference, and/or official referral to the administration.

Supplies

- Three-ring notebook with at least four dividers
- Pen/Pencil

Acknowledgement: I have read, reviewed, and agreed to all rules, expectations, and information presented in the British Literature syllabus.

Student Name (Print)

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

Parent/Guardian telephone:

Parent/Guardian email:

Parent/Guardian address: