

Course Syllabus - 12th Grade – British Literature
Instructor – Nicole Housen

Help Sessions – Various ESP periods and after school
Please take the time to read this and sign at the end with your child.

Texts: “Beowulf”
“The Canterbury Tales”
The Picture of Dorian Gray
“Pygmalion”
Brave New World or some dystopian novel
“Macbeth or “Hamlet”

Required Materials: Pen/Pencil
Textbook/novel every class
Paper

Course Overview: British Literature is a study of major literary topics and themes from British authors. Students will practice critical thinking skills, writing for college or the workplace, editing and revision, and working on collaborative projects including group led lessons.

Classroom rules

1. All school policies and rules printed in the La Costa Canyon High School agenda will be enforced in the classroom.
2. At all times, teachers and students will treat each other with mutual respect
3. Arrive to class on time. **Habitual tardies may affect grade due to missed work.**
4. All materials must be brought every class
5. No food or drink (except water or coffee) allowed in class
6. Inappropriate use of electronics will result in electronic equipment being banned from class
7. If you come to class, the expectation is you are awake and involved with the activities going on in class. There is a proper time and place for everything.

Grading

Grades are determined per the following scale: **100-90=A or A-**, **89-80=B or B-**, **79-70=C or C-**, **69-60=C or C-**, **59-50=F**. Grading categories are: Class activities/work, Homework, Tests/Quizzes, Group projects and Essays.

Absences

All work must be made up in a timely manner with **excused absences**. If you miss one class, you have a class to make up the work. If you miss two classes, you have two classes to make up work, etc. It is not the teacher's responsibility to notify students of the need to make up missed work. **Do not use Aeries to find out about missed work if you want to complete it in a timely manner.** Refer to your class website to find out what went on during class when you are absent. It is also the student's responsibility to make sure they have access to their class website, in the beginning of the year, so they can check on these things as needed.

Late Work

Homework and classroom assignments are due upon request as assigned; they will not be accepted late.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is the use of another's words or ideas and the presentation of them as though they were entirely your own. Acts of plagiarism might include, but are not limited to:

- Using words or ideas from a published source without proper documentation
- Using the work of another student (e.g. copying homework, composition, or project)
- Using excessive editing suggestions of another student, teacher, parent, or paid editor.

A word about what constitutes “excessive editing”. Students learn to write well by doing just that. Struggling independently through the writing process produces growth (as well as agony) and eventually the student's own voice. When well-meaning parents, siblings, tutors, or others contribute their ideas, words, phrases, revisions, etc. to students' writing, student writers miss the opportunity to achieve literary self-reliance.

So what is helping, but is not excessive editing? The answer is questioning and cueing. For example: “Is this word strong enough? Interesting enough? Specific enough?” “Can you think of another word that would fit better?” “Does this sentence seem awkward?” “What exactly do you mean?” “I don't understand what you are trying to say here; can you say it more clearly?” “This sentence has a powerful verb; can you find one as powerful for that other sentence?” These kinds of questions and statements allow the students to think and write independently. Students should be allowed to find their own voices and develop their own writing skills.

Plagiarism on any assignment will result in a zero for the assignment. Also, students who willingly provide other students access to their work are in violation of the school Academic Honesty Policy. Turnitin.com will be used to check assignments for plagiarism.

I have received and read the syllabus for this course.

Signature of student

Date

Signature of parent

Date