

Ms. Montross: English III CPA Syllabus - British Literature

Welcome!

Welcome to British Literature! My name is Ms. Montross, I am so excited for a wonderful year ahead with you! This is my fifth year teaching at Hackettstown. I am looking forward to getting to know you and seeing the incredible progress and learning in store for you this year!

Please note that the texts we study are always subject to change.

What we have planned to read this year:

Encyclopedia of Early Earth by Isabel Greenberg

Beowulf, translated by Maria Dhavana Headley

Grendel by John Gardner

The Alchemist by Paulo Coelho

The Canterbury Tales by Geoffrey Chaucer

Animal Farm by George Orwell

Macbeth by William Shakespeare

Assessments and Activities

Types of assessments and activities you can expect: Goal planning, reading quizzes, vocabulary quizzes, tests, homework reading activities, book clubs, individual creative projects, group projects, participation pop quizzes, & Socratic seminars.

Notes on assessment: Final assessments will be in the form of projects, presentations, essays, or tests. These will always be announced and students will be given time in class to review/prepare. Quizzes can be given at any time, either announced or unannounced, to gauge student understanding and grasp of material.

Grading, Late Policy, Absences

Grading: All assignments are given a point value from 5-200. At the end of the marking period, your grade will be calculated by adding up all of the points you've earned and dividing that total by the maximum number of points available. There will be planned opportunities for extra credit. ***If you have questions or concerns about your grade, please communicate with me! Your success is a team effort!***

Late Work: All assignments (including homework, projects, and essays) that are submitted late will lose 10% of the total points available each day the assignment is not turned in. For example, if a student hands in an assignment that was worth 20 points one day late, the student will lose a total of two points (grade of an 18/20). After a second day, the student will lose 4 points (grade of a 16/20.)

Once a late assignment total hits zero, it will remain a zero. ***If a student would like help/needs additional time on an assignment, they can always communicate with me and we can make a plan together to complete the assignment and turn it in.***

Absences: Thank you in advance for letting me know that you will be absent on certain days. Please remember that per school policy, you have one day for each day they are absent for the purpose of making up missed work. Please follow these guidelines: ***1) Check Google classroom for digital assignments and the daily Google classroom post. There will always be a daily post with an outline of what we did the day you were out! 2) Get notes you may have missed from a classmate.***

Cell Phone Policy

- ***Usage of cell phones in my classroom is prohibited*** unless I have given you permission to use your phone.
- As you walk into class, you are expected to place your phones in the phone caddy with your appropriate number. The phone will remain in the caddy for the entire class period and will not leave the pouch. Removal from the pouch will result in an automatic discipline referral.
- If you are using your device without permission during class, you will be asked to return the phone to your assigned pouch, and a discipline referral will be made immediately.

****AIRPODS/HEADPHONES:** Both are not to be used during class, unless you are working individually on an assignment or project. Using airpods or headphones is prohibited during active teaching or discussion.

Plagiarism Policy

Plagiarism is identified as:

- Using any website for answers.
- Using Chat GPT, or any AI system to complete an assignment, even if the assignment partially contains your own thoughts.
- Copying and pasting another student's work into your own document.
- Verbally asking for answers from another student during class.
- Passing around a student's work, either on paper or digitally, to copy and hand in under the guise that it is your own original thought and work.
- Please see the Student Handbook for the school policy.

AI English Department Policy:

Students may use AI to help generate ideas for a creative writing piece, but must compose the actual content themselves. The generation of written content and/or original thought is a requirement of the student. Furthermore, AI could be used to broaden a perspective for further investigation, help expand search perimeters, or assist with editing. Only in assignments where the teacher explicitly requires AI creation may AI writing be submitted in final work. Students may use AI tools to assist with initial steps in the research process, such as generating questions, organizing ideas, or developing outlines, but final submissions must reflect authentic student work and independent thinking.

Disciplinary policy for plagiarism:

- You will receive a 0 on the assignment, with no retakes or redos.
- I will leave a comment on Realtime and Google classroom marking the assignment as plagiarized.
- I will speak with you, and in addition, your family will be contacted and an immediate discipline referral will be made.

Bathroom Policy

- Students will go to the bathroom at the beginning of class before we begin.
- Students may not use the bathroom while we are reading together.
- Unless it's an emergency, a student may not interrupt my teaching or a classmate to ask to go to the bathroom.
- Unless it's an emergency, students may not leave the classroom while we are reading.
- Students will fill out a smart pass to the nearest bathroom.
- Only one student will be allowed out of the room at a time.
- Per school policy: if you are out of the room for over 11 minutes, I need to mark your attendance as a cut.

Classroom Procedures

- Students will be on time to class. You will be marked late if you walk in any point after the bell rings.
- Students will walk into the room calmly and quietly.

- Students will come to class prepared with their fully-charged chromebook, a writing utensil, their folder/binder, and their reading materials. Students who arrive without these materials 5 times or more will be referred to administration.
- Students will be active participants in class activities.
- Students will raise their hands to speak and not speak over me or their peers.
- **Students will treat their teachers and their peers with respect & kindness. If a student's behavior infringes upon another student's or their own right to learn, it will result in disciplinary action.**

Contact me

If you need to contact me for any reason, you can a) stop by right after school on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays to chat or b) I am quick to respond to email **between the hours of 7am and 5pm. From 5pm-6:59am, no guarantees.** When you email me, please format as such:

Subject: Your last name, and purpose of note

Greeting: Address me like you would in a formal letter

Body: Make your request/ask question/ say hi

Signature: Kindly sign off with your name and period #.

Parent/Guardian Acknowledgement

Please read through this syllabus with your parent/guardian, have them sign this slip, and provide their most convenient contact information. When you hand this in, please also present a English-class dedicated binder or folder with your syllabus. **If you need help locating a binder or folder, please let me know asap and I can make that happen!**

Student Name _____

Student Signature _____

Parent Name _____

Parent Signature _____

Parent contact (email or phone) _____