

Course Description

This twelfth grade course is the fourth in a series designed to extend reading, writing, and critical thinking skills. It addresses the Maryland Core Learning Goals for English and equips students to meet the demands of postsecondary careers and educational opportunities. Students who succeed in this course meet the minimum objectives for college entrance. Learning activities include preparing for the SAT, writing essays, reading and analyzing literary selections, and producing a research paper on a self-selected topic.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of English III Honors.

Course Goals

Students will demonstrate the ability to:

- Analyze literature based on advanced features of literary criticism.
- Respond creatively and critically in a variety of methods to thematic content.
- Control language carefully by fully applying the conventions of Standard English and rhetorical techniques in writing and speaking.
- Evaluate the content, organization, language, and effect of various texts.
- To carefully read and critically analyze imaginative literature.
- To consider the social and historical values a work reflects and embodies.
- To become aware of, through speaking, listening, reading, and chiefly writing, the resources of language: connotation, metaphor, irony, syntax, and tone.

Course Requirements

Students must complete the following activities:

1. Two 2-3 page papers. One will be due before Christmas break. The other will be due before spring break.
2. In-class writing exercises on selected novels, writing experiences, comparison and contrast compositions, character analyses, informative essays, personal narratives, and persuasive essays.
3. Submissions of a short story, essay, article, or poem that you have found.
4. Participate in class discussion. You will receive a test grade for participation.
5. Journal entries: You will prepare a total of 12 (twelve) journal entries this school year. A single journal entry must be 2 written pages in length, in which you respond informally, but thoughtfully on the work assigned for the next day or write original thoughts related to a particular day's class. You may comment on characters, themes, connections between texts, etc. Of the twelve, four of the entries can be creative (poems, short stories, observations about something you've read or seen outside of school). You may comment or respond to an article that has been assigned or one that you locate on your own. Format the entry correctly and follow the six+1 traits of writing. Your entries should be thought-provoking and original! You will receive a test grade for each entry.
6. 15-20 minute partner presentation. You will receive a test grade for your presentation.
7. Complete a personal essay for college admission/scholarship entry.
8. Read complete texts independently and respond to the text in thoughtful writing.
9. Research a topic and write a research/synthesis paper according to specific guidelines.
10. Complete weekly vocabulary and grammar activities and tests.
11. Complete visual, spatial, and performative activities individually and in groups.
12. Take a final exam that will count 10% of the final grade.

Required Materials:

In order to be prepared for class, you must have these items with you **everyday**:

- Textbook, Interactive Reader and/or assigned reading materials
- Agenda
- Pencils/pens
- Journal/Interactive Notebook
- Post-Its
- Folder that is content specific
- Completed homework

Texts:

Frankenstein, Shelley

1984, Orwell

The Tragedy of Hamlet, Prince of Denmark, Shakespeare

Allen, Janet et al. *Holt McDougal Literature, Grade 12: British Literature*. Orlando, FL: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company, 2012.

Selections from modern novels, as selected

Guidelines for Success

- **Come to class everyday.**
- **Arrive on time and be prepared for class when the bell rings.**
As you enter the classroom, sharpen pencils, sit on your assigned seat, get out agenda and write homework in it, and begin warm-up **before** the bell rings. BE READY WHEN I AM! If you are not in your seat, facing front, and beginning the warm-up you are **not following the start-of-class-procedures and there will be consequences.**
- **Bring only approved materials into the classroom.**
Approved materials include: binders, pens/pencils, paper, post-its, and your agenda. So, if you're attached to that cell phone or really love the way your Victoria's Secret body spray smells, leave them in your locker because anything brought into the classroom that is unnecessary will be confiscated for the remainder of the school year.
- **Use only your materials and the materials Mrs. Landolt gives you permission to use.**
When we do projects in class, I will supply you with materials. If you forget a pencil, I will be happy to lend you one for the class period. However, I expect the things I loan out to be returned. If you don't return it or you destroy it, the chances of me providing for the class materials lessen for you and your peers. Return borrowed objects to their place in the condition you found them in.
- **Be respectful.**
Be respectful to one another, adults, and objects at all times. **Do not** touch things in the classroom that are not yours. **Do not** interrupt me or each other. **Do not** use profanity in the classroom. **Do not** destroy or vandalize objects in the classroom. Bullying, harassment, and intimidation of any kind will not be tolerated. Remember the Golden Rules: Treat others as you would like to be treated, and if you do not have anything nice to say, don't say anything at all. Failure to display respectful behavior will result in consequences.

- **Be honest.**

Cheating/disruptive/questionable behavior will not be tolerated in the classroom. Use your own agenda to gain access to the hallway and the bathroom. Using someone else's is the same as lying to me.

Test-Taking Policy: If you display any of the behaviors listed (cheating, disruptive, questionable behavior) during a test, your test will be collected and you will receive no grade until you make arrangements to make-up the test after school. It's rude and disrespectful to interrupt distract others when they are testing. Your best bet is to keep your eyes on your paper when testing.

- **Promptly follow instructions.**

- **Raise your hand to be called upon.**

Unless you are working in groups, raise your hand to be recognized and called upon. There is to be no talking or getting out of your seat unless Mrs. Landolt grants you permission.

- **Follow directions/NDHS policies.**

- **Come to class alert and ready to learn.**

Laying your head on the desk is not an effective way to learn. Keep your head up!

- **Try your best, every day.**

Re-Test Policy

If you didn't perform as well as you'd hoped to on an assessment, you have the option to re-test. See Mrs. Landolt for a Request to Re-Test form and make arrangements to seek additional assistance and re-test before or after school.

Consequences

If for some reason you break one of the above stated guidelines, which I do not foresee because you're seniors in an AP class, the following actions will be taken:

- First offense: verbal warning from Mrs. Landolt.
- Second offense: student conference, parents contacted, and either a 30-minute after-school detention or a lunch detention. I reserve the right to choose.
- Third offense: parents contacted, 1-hour after-school detention, and an office referral.
- Fourth offense: You will be told to leave the classroom, no questions asked. A referral will be written.

Homework

Homework must be completed! Assigned homework shall be completed and handed in the next day. Students will receive 100% if the work is completed and handed in or a 0% if it is not. You may turn homework assignments in up to three days late for partial credit. Not only will completing your homework enhance your ability to do what is required of you, it will add to your grade, and allow me to see how you're progressing in class.

Attendance

Attend class everyday. If you are absent and it is excused, you may have access to make-up work. You are responsible for collecting your make-up work. It will be placed in a folder in the back of the classroom. The make-up work shall be completed and handed in the next day for full credit. If more time is needed, students may turn in make-up work up to three days after its due date. However, each day an assignment is late, 10 points will be deducted from the grade. If you miss a day and it is not excused, you may not make up the work, and it will be counted as a zero.

See student handbook for new attendance policy.

Tests/Quizzes

Depending on the material covered throughout the week, there will be a test or quiz each week. Quizzes and tests make up 70% of your final grade, so you will need to be prepared. I will give you proper notice for each test or quiz beforehand.

Writing Format

For all assignments, unless otherwise noted, you will need to follow this heading.

- Name, class, assignment, and date must be written of typed in the **upper left hand corner**.
- Paragraphs must be indented.
- All written assignments must be edited for spelling and other corrections before they are turned into Mrs. Landolt.
- All writing assignments that are handwritten should be legible and written in ink. If I can't read it, I can't grade it.

Grading Policy

All assignments will be graded using a point system. Assignments are broken down into the following categories and weighed in the following manner:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| • Test, Quizzes, Projects, and Essays | 70% of total grade |
| • Class Work (including warm-ups) | 15% |
| • Homework | 15% |

Modules of Study

British Literature will focus on developing skills that students will need to make them college and career ready. Skills outlined by State Standards Initiative include, demonstrating independence, building strong content knowledge, responding to various audience, tasks, and purpose, comprehending, critiquing, using and incorporating technology, incorporating textual evidence, and understanding and valuing outside cultures and perspectives.

Module One:

We will explore excerpts and literature from the Anglo-Saxon, Medieval Period, and the English Renaissance periods. In additions to studying historical context, we will investigate and discuss how heroes are made, what shapes society, and how fate affects our lives. Selections include *Beowulf*, *Hamlet*, and sections from *The Canterbury Tales*. In this module you will also discover how religion influenced public life, interpretations of love, how a perfect society in defined, and examples of power. As we read more from the Renaissance, we will reflect on a celebration of human achievement with poetry, Shakespeare, and historical pieces.

Writing Focus:

- Critical Writing
- Analytical Writing

Module Two:

Research Paper

Module Three:

We will investigate the Victorian Era as well as modern writers in this third module. We will see how rapid change, progress, problems, and reformation affected literature. We will connect the literature to the history and the culture by reading selected poetry from Tennyson, Browning, Bronte, and Hopkins. The same ideals can be read in short stories, excerpts, and article by Eliot, Chekhov, Arnold, and Hardy. Finally, we will explore modern and

contemporary literature, new ideas, and new visions through Woolf, Elliot, Thomas, Yeats and Joyce. This module concludes with reading Orwell's *1984*.

Writing Focus:

- Analytic Writing

Module Four:

We will read various selection and a novel from Restoration and the 18th Century as well as Romanticism. In this period there is a rise of women writers and social critics. These view will be expressed through articles, short stories, and poems by Daniel Defoe, Alexander Pope, Jonathan Swift, Charlotte smith, and Mary Wollstonecraft. Questions of Nature, Emotions, War, and What is Ordinary will be addressed through pieces by Wordsworth, Blake, Coleridge, Shelley, Byron, and Keats. This module culminates with the novel *Frankenstein*, by Mary Shelley.

Writing Focus:

- Informative Writing
- Persuasive Writing

