



RADNOR TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Course Overview



Honors British Literature  
Course # 05010140

**General Information**

Credits: 1.0  
Weighted: yes  
Prerequisite: none

Length: Full Year  
Format: Meets Daily  
Grade: 12

**Course Description**

Students will examine major works of British Literature, including the works of Colonial writers of merit. Students will also investigate genres in the modern literary tradition. In addition, students will review the writing process through various assignments as well as compose a detailed research paper employing MLA (Modern Language Association) format.

The purpose of this course is to provide students with the tools necessary for understanding British Literature and to foster within the individual an appreciation for the British literary tradition. Students will also learn to examine works by using critical thinking and analytical skills. They will learn to express their knowledge, ideas, and creativity clearly and effectively through writing and discussion. Most importantly, the class aims to help students enjoy literature in a way that is personal and meaningful.

**Course Objectives:**

1. Students will be able to read, understand, and respond to works of literature, including novels, stories, poetry, and drama.
2. Students will be able to write for different purposes and audiences including completing a research paper.
3. Students will be able to read, understand, and respond to informational texts.
4. Students will be able to present appropriately in formal speaking situations, listen critically, and respond intelligently as individuals or in group discussions.

Essential Questions

- What is the relationship between literature and place?
- How does literature shape or reflect society?
- What is the relationship of the writer to tradition?

**Common Assessments:**

Required Assessments:

Common Assessments:

1. Response to Poem/Literature
2. Response to Literature

3. Oral Presentation Rubric
4. MLA Format Rubric

### **Major Units of Study:**

Unit 1: From Legend to History (A.D. 449-1485)  
Unit 2: The Renaissance (1485- 1660)  
Unit 3: The Restoration and the Eighteenth Century (1660-1800)  
Unit 4: The Romantic Period (1798-1832)  
Unit 5: The Victorian Period (1832-1901)  
Unit 6: The Twentieth Century and After  
Unit 5: Research

Research may be completed in conjunction with any of the units or as a separate unit.

### **Materials & Texts**

#### **Required Text and Resources:**

##### Common Texts:

*Beowulf* as translated by Seamus Heaney

Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*

Shakespeare play

Some or all of the following:

*Grendel* by John Gardner

*Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley

*The Dubliners* by James Joyce

*The Heart of Darkness* by Joseph Conrad

*The Importance of Being Earnest* by Oscar Wilde

*Never Let Me Go* by Kazuo Ishiguro

##### Common Course Texts

*The Norton Anthology of English Literature*

#### **Supplemental Texts and Resources (use may vary):**

Modern Short Stories

### **Summer Assignment**

Students should refer to the RHS English page for Summer Reading Expectations.

Students are to read:

*White Teeth*, by Zadie Smith

