



British and World Literature – Expectations and Syllabus Mr. Thompson

Welcome to British Literature!!! Throughout this semester, instruction will be based on objectives of the Maryland College and Career- Ready Standards. In addition, students in British Literature will have a final assessment/project at the end of the semester.

General Class Procedures:

- You will need something to write with, your textbook, and your iPad every day.
- You are required to **attend all zoom classes and answer the daily warm-up question**. Both will be used for attendance purposes as well as daily participation points.
- We will be holding zoom classes multiple times a week, but there will also be some asynchronous days where the zoom class will be optional. This gives everyone a chance to work on assignments while providing time to conference individually if needed.
- DO NOT enter the office area unless you are invited to do so. The Editing Room is strictly off-limits.

Overall Expectations for the Semester:

Studio Rules –

- Food and Drinks are not permitted by the computers or video equipment.
- Cell phones are not to be out or in use unless it pertains to an assignment and you are given permission.
- Respect is required from all persons. Learning new skills requires risk taking. Please be tolerant of supportive as we all learn British and World Literature.

Course Overview – The SDHS English 12 curriculum includes organized instruction in close reading and written analysis of literature through a study of classic British and World Literature selections. These texts illustrate human emotions and interpretations of the world at particular moments in history. Through these readings, you may recognize common emotions, responses, and concerns of the larger society, the family, and the individual.

Course Goal – To improve our ability to communicate through a variety of reading, writing, listening, and speaking exercises; to become familiar with classic British and World Literature; to read and comprehend literary texts from a variety of time periods; to think, analyze, and write critically about the relationship between literature and history and modern life.

Units of Study: While our text contains 6 units of study, we will focus on 3 of these units.

- **Unit 1:** Forging a Hero – Warriors and Heroes
- **Unit 3:** Facing the Future, Confronting the Past – Shakespeare Extended Study
- **Unit 6:** Finding a Home – Nation, Exile, and Dominion

Each unit is structured similarly. The class follows the basic structure below.

1. **Introduction with Model Text** – This text will be a model for an end of unit written Performance Based Assessment.
2. **Whole-Class Learning and Text Study** – The entire class will work on a text with teacher instruction.
3. **Small-Group Learning and Text Study** – The class will separate into small groups to investigate texts with the teacher as facilitator and monitor. The use of breakout rooms will be utilized for this.
4. **Independent Learning and Text Study** – Each student will be responsible for investigating texts on their own with the teacher as a monitor.
5. **Performance Based Assessment** – All activities and assessments of each text will be used to complete this assessment at the end of each unit.

Grading: Grading in my class is on a straight points system. I do not weight grades except where required by Worcester County Policy. The more points given an assignment the greater its value to the overall grade.

Participation: 10 points per day / 50 points per full week

Homework: Weekly assignments and School Events (Various amounts)

Classwork and Projects: Varying Amounts

Quizzes and Tests: Varying Amounts

Final Exam: TBA

If at any time you have questions about your grade in class, I will be happy to discuss them with you. It is important to keep all papers and materials that are graded so that if there is a dispute, you will have proof of your grade.

Homework: Homework will be kept to a minimum and will mostly be to complete what you did not complete in class.

Remind: We do have a class remind that you are expected to sign up for. Information for the remind can be found on Schoology. I will use the class remind to push out information regarding announcements and assignments, while also using it to reach out to check in individually. You are expected to use Remind to message me if you are running late to school, have questions about assignments, and to contact me if needed.

Absence: Students may be absent from class for illness or emergencies. It is expected that *students will be responsible for getting and completing all of their missed assignments*. County policy mandates deadlines for absent work unless other arrangements are made with the teacher. Please refer to your agenda if you are unclear of the policies sent in place. Note: Students will be working in groups throughout the semester, missed classes can negatively impact your work and the work of your group.

Communication: Parents and Guardians are always welcome to phone or email the teacher. Students are also encouraged to arrange to speak with the teacher before or after school for individual conferences and assistance. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me at 410-632-2968 (direct line to DNN Studio) or by email at DJThompson@worcesterk12.org.

Classroom Protocol

1. Be Present!

Arrive at or before your designated report time as stated above. Attendance is vital any missed class results in a loss of these points, even if excused.

Turn off and turn in your cell phones. Place phones face down on the table in front of you during lessons and activities. Tune in and tune out other work. Work on assignments for my class; do not work on class assignments during lessons and activities.

2. Be Prepared!

Bring all materials to class that you will need to complete your assignments.
Take care of all water and bathroom needs prior to the start of class.

3. Be Respectful!

Respect yourself, your peers, your teacher, and the studio. Only one person speaks at a time.
Use appropriate language – no foul language, slang, or derogatory statements.

4. Be Awesome!

Do not limit yourself!

Participate in the class – no sleeping, lethargy, or whining.
Follow school rules outlined in the agenda.

Respect the classroom environment, as I strive to keep the room comfortable. I would appreciate it if you leave it as you found it, or better.

General Information:

Cell Phones: There is a countywide and school wide cell phone policy. This policy states that cell phones are not to be used as a communication device between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 2:40 p.m. As stated in the classroom protocols, all cellphones must be placed face down on the table during instruction and activities. Any student who uses his/her phone during instructional times will have their phone confiscated and locked away until the end of the day, and will receive an office referral for non-compliance. There will be times that cell phones can be used for instructor-approved classwork, and you will be informed of these times.

Students Making Up Work Missed: We live by deadlines in this class, and work time is calculated for each assignment. You are expected to make each deadline, yet communication is key. If you find that you need more time on a certain assignment, you **MUST** reach out to me and formally ask for an extension, at least 24 hours before the due date. Late work will be accepted up to two weeks past the due date, with a deduction of points taking place each day it is late. Any assignment turned in after the two weeks will be marked as a 50%, while assignments not turned in at all will be given a score of 0%.



After reading the syllabus, **please sign and submit to Mr. Thompson by Tuesday, February 9, 2021.** It is suggested and recommended that the syllabus be kept in a binder or safe place so that you can refer to it as needed throughout the semester.

I have read the above syllabus, expectations, and procedures and I understand what is expected of me this semester in my British Literature Class.

(Student Name – Print)

(Student Signature)

(Date)

I have read the above syllabus, expectations, and procedures and I understand what is expected of my student in his/her British Literature Class.

(Parent/Guardian Name – Print)

(Parent/Guardian Signature)

(Date)