



British Literature

Course Syllabus Fall 2020



Harrison High School

Mission Statement:

Helping **Our Youth Achieve** by

Providing

Real-world

Instruction through

Diverse

Education

Email: Kimberly.McCarter@cobbk12.org

Office Hours: I am available to meet with individual students or small groups of students at the following times:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 1:30-3:30

Wednesday: 8:30-3:30

Email me if you would like to request a meeting and I will set up a meeting in the virtual classroom.

Parents and Students:

The easiest way to contact me is either in the virtual classroom or via my e-mail. I always respond as quickly as possible to parents and students who contact me. If you feel that I have not responded quickly enough to your request, please feel free to repeat your e-mail. **ALL EMAILS RECEIVED WITHOUT A SUBJECT ARE DELETED.**

Textbook:

SpringBoard English Language Arts: Senior English

Per the Georgia Standards of Excellence, British Literature/Composition students will do the following:

- study the **development of British literature** in conjunction with historical development.
- employ strong, thorough, and explicit **textual** evidence in their literary analyses and technical research.
- understand the development of **multiple ideas through details and structure** and track the development of **complex characters and advanced elements of plot** such as frame narratives and parallel storylines.
- write to reflect their ability to **synthesize texts and ideas effectively**, employing the structure, evidence, and rhetoric necessary in the composition of effective, analytical texts.
- construct **college-ready research papers** of significant length in accordance with the guidelines of standard format styles such as APA and MLA.
- build strong and varied **vocabularies** across multiple content areas, including technical subjects.
- employ **rhetoric** and figurative language, purposefully construct tone and mood, and identify lapses in reason or ambiguities in texts.
- recognize nuances of meaning imparted by **mode of presentation**, whether it is live drama, spoken word, digital media, film, dance, or fine art.
- communicate in **multiple modes of discourse** demonstrating a strong command of the rules of Standard English.
- read, analyze and discuss **complex texts** independently and proficiently.

***All school policies outlined in the HHS Handbook are enforced in this classroom at all times.**

Always be courteous; remember that everyone in the classroom has something valuable to contribute to your education.

BOOKS AND MATERIALS

Textbooks:

- *SpringBoard English Language Arts: Senior English*. The textbook, which includes audio recordings for most selections along with activities, is available online in the Resources section of the virtual classroom.
- *Your Essay and Multimedia Project: What Your Teacher Expects*. This text contains critical information concerning components of successful essays, a step-by-step guide for writing an essay, MLA formatting criteria and step-by-step directions, and tips and technical information for multimedia projects. A PDF copy of this document is available for viewing and/or download in the Resources section of the virtual classroom.

Parallel and School-Provided Novels and Texts:

Students will read the following novels, either in whole or in part:

- o *Othello* by William Shakespeare
- o *Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley
- o *The Canterbury Tales* by Geoffrey Chaucer
- o British texts selected by student
- o Non-fiction texts from a variety of magazines, scholarly journals, and newspapers.

These texts were selected based on their relevance to Britain, the English language, and/or the human experience. At this grade level, most texts explore a variety of mature themes and subjects and may include mature language. Parents are encouraged to research these titles and direct any questions concerning their content to the classroom teacher. In the case of parental objection to a text, an alternate text will be provided. Cobb County requires English teachers to obtain approval for readings not included in the school's adopted textbook. Please review this list and sign the attached *Acknowledgement & Approval Form*.

TurnItIn.com

You are required to use TurnItIn.com for the majority of your written assignments. All major writing assignments must be submitted to Turnitin.com BEFORE they will be graded. **NOTE on items designated as a match:** As long as your matching text is in quotation marks and *properly documented*, the match is not a problem. Teachers *expect* to see that you have *properly* referenced an appropriate amount of scholarly support in your writing. Here is how to access our class:

1. Go to www.turnitin.com.
2. **If you have an account already**, log in.
 - a. Click "Enroll in a Class."
 - b. Use the section code and enrollment password provided within your CTLS class.
3. **If you are creating an account**, in the top right corner of the screen, you'll see "Create Account." Click there.
 - a. Under "Create a New Account," click "Student."
 - b. Enter the section code and enrollment password below, then complete your personal information. **You must use an email address.**
 - c. Click "I Agree."
4. Enter your class section code and enrollment password, as found in CTLS.

To Submit a Document to TurnItIn.com

1. Log in.
2. Find our class and click on it.
3. Find the assignment and click "Submit."
4. Give your submission a title, then **choose a file from your computer documents**. If your file is on a flash drive, insert the flash drive first, then click "Choose from this computer" and find your flash drive. **DO NOT COPY/PASTE YOUR TEXT!**

You MUST submit written work as a Microsoft Word document, a Google doc, or a text file. If you try to submit a type of document that Turnitin cannot check, the document will NOT submit.

5. Click "Upload."
6. Review your submission and click "Confirm."
7. You'll receive a "digital receipt" via email. Keep this! If you do not receive a digital receipt, your document did not submit. You must try again. Make sure you are submitting the correct type of document. Try a different Web browser. If neither of these suggestions help, contact your teacher.

NOTICE: Failure to submit your essay for plagiarism checking will result in a grade of 30% recorded for ALL grades associated with the essay until the essay is submitted.

To Contribute to a Discussion on TurnItIn.com

1. Log in.
2. Find our class and click on it.
3. Click "Discussions" and find the correct discussion topic, then click on that topic.
4. Click "Reply to this topic."

5. Enter your comment, PROOFREAD, then click “Submit Reply to Topic.”

Supplies

Students will *always* need, and *are responsible for having*, access to Microsoft Office Word. You may NOT hand in assignments created with Google docs. You may access Word through your Office 365 login or you may install the Microsoft Office Suite directly to your home computer. Cobb County School District has purchased the rights to allow you to use and/or download this software to your personal computer.

- To find your Office 365 sign-in information, see <http://www.cobbk12.org/centraloffice/InstructionalTechnology/CR/Microsoft/StudentsParents.aspx>
- To download and install the Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, etc.) on your personal computer, see <https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/office/download-and-install-or-reinstall-microsoft-365-or-office-2019-on-a-pc-or-mac-4414eaaf-0478-48be-9c42-23adc4716658?ui=en-us&rs=en-us&ad=us>

GRADES will be determined on the following percentages:

- Reading, Formative: 15%
- Reading, Summative: 20%
- Writing, Formative: 10%
- Writing, Summative 20%
- Language, Formative: 10%
- Language, Summative: 10%
- Final Exam: 15%

Grade Reporting:

Grades will be reported through **StudentVUE/ParentVUE**. An app for this system allows parents and students access to grades through many smart phones and tablets. Parents are encouraged to check student grades on a regular basis. Grades are updated regularly. Parents can receive information about account access in the Main Office.

NOTE: When the grade place is first created, the name of the item will appear in the gradebook, but the item will not affect the student’s average until a grade has been entered. The space will remain blank until the assignment has been graded and grades have been entered. **If a grade of zero is entered, it means that grades for that assignment have been entered and the student DID NOT HAND IN the assignment.** If a student is absent, he/she MUST make up the missed work within 3 school days. Work not made up will be assigned a grade of zero until it is made up (or permanently, if the task is not completed in a timely manner).

Grade Remediation and Standards-based Grading:

By the end of the course, students are expected to demonstrate their ability to perform actions specified by the Georgia Department of Education. These expectations are written in the Common Core Georgia Performance Standards for the course. Each classroom assignment is associated with one or more of these performance standards. The teacher will determine how well the student has mastered each of the standards associated with the assignment.

NOTE: Assignments will be graded based on the **quality and accuracy** of the student’s performance of each standard. **Completion grades are not given.** Please understand that while hard work and long hours spent working on a task often result in a quality product, this is not always the case. Grades cannot be elevated based upon time and effort spent on the task. Grades are based solely on mastery of the standards. If students have questions about how they should complete tasks in order to demonstrate mastery, they are encouraged to ask the teacher.

It is possible that the same standard could be addressed more than once during the class. Typically, when this occurs, the later assignments assess the standard at a higher level of skill than the earlier assignments, requiring that the students acquire and demonstrate an increasingly complex level of skill as the course progresses. If a student demonstrates a higher level of skill later in the course for ***the exact same standard*** assessed earlier, the new grade can replace the earlier grade (since the student has obtained a higher level of skill). If a student wishes for a later grade to replace an earlier grade for this reason, the student must **detail the request in writing to the teacher.**

Some standards may be assessed only once on a summative assessment during the course. This provides the opportunity for students who can demonstrate mastery to avoid additional work on a skill they have already mastered. It also provides the opportunity for students who have NOT mastered the skill to receive additional instruction and the opportunity to attempt the demonstration of skill again (and improve the associated grade!).

It is strongly suggested that the student meet with the teacher **AFTER SCHOOL** to receive direction and feedback **before attempting grade remediation**. Completing an assessment twice in an inappropriate manner will NOT result in a higher grade. Doing it wrong twice isn't better; it's just MORE. If a student does not understand any portion of an assignment, meeting with the teacher will often clarify what must be done in order to receive a more satisfactory grade.

ASSIGNMENTS

Handing in Assignments: Unless specified otherwise, daily assignments should be handed in to the appropriate class-assignment in the virtual classroom. **Assignments should NEVER be emailed to the teacher.** Our school spam filter often blocks emails with attachments and we never see them. If you want to send an email to alert the teacher that you have handed in something, it is fine to do so, but please do NOT email the actual assignment to the teacher. She will view the assignment online.

Please note that all assignments are due by midnight on the due date. All assignments are date and time-stamped when they are handed in. Points will be deducted for late assignments. Failure to hand in assignments on time may affect the student's ability to remediate the grade for the standards assessed on the assignment. Assignments may be handed in early to avoid problems and penalties (as well as to receive priority grading).

Late Assignments. Assignments should be handed in as specified by the teacher.

- **Daily** assignments and homework **may not be handed in after the due date**. Daily assignments will not be accepted after the answers have been discussed in class. The student will receive a grade of zero for these assignments.
- **Extra Credit** assignments **will not be accepted late for ANY reason**. Students are given plenty of time to complete assignments, which may be turned in at any time UP TO or ON the due date, NOT after. If a student is absent from school the day the assignment is due, he/she must arrange for the assignment to be handed in on the due date, even in his/her absence.
- **Major** assignments and summative work, such as the research paper and projects, will incur automatic loss of points if they are handed in after the due date (10% to 25% depending on the assignment). If you're going to hand in an assignment anyway, why not hand it in on time and receive full credit for your work?

ALL ASSIGNMENTS MAY BE HANDED IN EARLY. Turning assignments in early is a great way to avoid losing points if the assignment is accidentally late.

ALL papers should be typed in MLA format as specified by the Essay Guide.

Make-Up Assignments.

- Students are allowed the same number of days they were absent to complete missing work. (For example, if a student misses class for two days, he/she has two days to turn in the missed work.)
- Assignments handed in beyond the allowed number of days after the student's return to school will be considered **Late** and credit will be reduced accordingly.
- **Students must have an EXCUSED ABSENCE in order to make up work.** The county policy will be strictly enforced. **Work missed due to an unexcused absence cannot be made up unless prior arrangements have been made with the administration.**
- **It is the STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY to obtain and submit missed work.** All assignments are posted in CTLSLearn and should be completed in order.
- **Missed class time can greatly affect a student's progress. Some of the activities cannot be made up because they require a class (discussions and such). I will make every effort to fill in a student; however, it cannot make up for the group experience that will be missed.** Graded discussions cannot be made up and students who miss the discussion will receive NO CREDIT for the discussion.
- Tests and quizzes should be made up within 3 days of an absence.
- All assignments missed due to absence will be recorded as a zero until the assignment is turned in and graded.
- **Missing Long Term Assignments:** Students who miss a **previously announced essay or project due date** are expected to turn in the assignment *on or before* the due date. (If you know you will be out on a due date, make sure you hand in assignments *before* you go!)

TARDINESS

Students are expected to be in each class on time!

THE SCHOOL DRESS CODE WILL BE ENFORCED IN THE VIRTUAL CLASSROOM. Please dress appropriately in the online classroom and be aware of images that will appear with you on camera.

Classroom Expectations and Policies:

1. Be prepared to take notes. While my classes are frequently broken up into activities, discussions, lectures, presentations, assessments, etc., expect to take notes on a regular basis. *Never ask the question “do we need to know this?” and instead, assume that if we are discussing it in class, you will be assessed on it.
2. Do not ask, “Are you taking this for a grade?” The answer will be “Yes,” whether I intend to take a grade on the assignment or not. All assignments are carefully constructed to provide students with opportunities to develop skills and master standards. Whether or not the assignment will be graded should not determine whether or not the student takes advantage of the opportunity to develop mastery of the associated skill.
3. This is a course based on learning, not grades. If you do the work, and work to learn, the grades will come on their own.
4. Classroom behavior should demonstrate maturity, responsibility, and respect for yourself, your teacher, and each other.
5. **Come to class fully prepared each day, ready to work, and ready to learn!**
6. **Have the highest expectations for yourself and plan to succeed.** “*Whether you think you can or think you can’t – you are right!*” - - Henry Ford
7. **Participate in all class activities and always bring materials to class.** Students should limit topics of discussion to those relevant to class lessons and should actively participate in all class activities.
8. **Show respect for yourself and others.** My classroom is a learning environment, and we are a class community. Everyone needs to feel comfortable and encouraged within these four walls. I expect you to exhibit maturity and tolerance for the opinions of others at all times.
9. **Behave appropriately at all times.** After a warning is given for inappropriate behavior, the disciplinary action code will be followed: (1) Student/Teacher Conference, (2) Parent Contact, (3) Administrative Referral.
10. **Practice exemplary academic integrity & honesty.**

Plagiarism and Academic Honesty

Academic dishonesty of any sort will not be tolerated. Students cheating on assignments or tests will earn a zero and disciplinary action will be taken. Academic dishonesty consists of but is not limited to copying homework, cheating, plagiarism, and using films and Cliffs Notes (or a similar device) in place of reading the original works; we will use Turnitin.com as a safety net. I am certain all my students will rise to the challenge of providing insightful, intelligent, and original products for this course. To avoid plagiarism, seek help from your teacher or the writing center.

Plagiarism is the act of using another person’s ideas and expressions in your writing or assignments without acknowledging the source. Repeating another’s words, phrases or sentences without quotation marks and proper citation is one form of plagiarism. Restating another’s “apt phrase,” argument or idea without proper citation is also plagiarism as it indicates the work is your own rather than that of the original source (MLA Handbook).

Consequences for plagiarism include receiving an F (0 points) on the assignment and a disciplinary referral to an administrator for disciplinary action. According to the Cobb County Code of Student Conduct, plagiarism is “copying of another person’s words or the expression of an idea and representing it as one’s own.” Penalties for cheating and plagiarism will be assessed on ALL assignments: tests, quizzes, reports, homework, essays, projects, etc. All assignments given in this class are individual assignments unless otherwise explicitly stated in writing. Collaboration with peers on individual assignments is considered cheating.

***Keep in mind: Being a member of the National Honor Society is something to work toward. If you receive a referral for any reason, especially for cheating — at any time in your high school career — membership in this prestigious society will be jeopardized.*