

Fall 2020
Adv. British Literature
Mrs. Beth Upper
FRIDAYS 9-10

*****COVID POLICY:**

In order to honor one another and to create as healthy and safe environment as possible, face coverings will be required for this class.

CLASS DESCRIPTION:

This class will be a college prep course focusing on reading and analyzing books, poems, plays, and short stories taken from recommended reading lists for college-bound students. It will be a book-based, writing-intensive class in which students will develop their writing skills and learn basic citation styles required in college. There will be weekly reading quizzes and reading assignments as well as several papers. This class may be taken for two years as the subject matter will change.

CLASS OBJECTIVES:

On completion of this class, students should be able to

- Understand the basics of the MLA writing format
- Be able to speak articulately about the subject matter in this class
- Develop a clear thesis
- Support an argument with textual evidence

CLASS REQUIREMENTS:

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Fall 2020: Beowulf, Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, Macbeth by Shakespeare, Murder on the Orient Express by Agatha Christie, and The Hound of Baskervilles by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

Spring 2021: Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen, The Importance of Being Earnest by Oscar Wilde, and 'Till We Have Faces by C.S. Lewis

All books may be purchased new or used in any edition so long as they are not abridged.

**The exception being Beowulf which must include line numbers.*

You will also need to have a notebook and access to a computer

GRADE BREAKDOWN:

-Quizzes: 25%

-Class Participation (keeping up with readings, asking questions, adding to discussion, and remaining attentive in class): 25%

-Mid-term paper: 25%

-Final paper: 25%

GRADING SCALE: A=100-93, A-=92-90, B+=89-87, B=86-83, B-=82-80, C+=79-77, C=76-73, C-=72-70, D+=69-67, D=66-63, D-=62-60, F=<60

READING AND READING QUIZZES:

Reading is a central part of this class. Reading provides us with a glimpse into another place- it is a chance for our imaginations to run wild. As you read, you should ask questions, analyzing both what you think the author's message is and how he uses specific language to convey that message. In addition, I encourage you to make notes about what you have read so that you may go back and remember what you have read. Please NO Sparknotes- this is the equivalent of cheating as you are not doing the work assigned.

Pop reading quizzes will be given throughout the semester. Quizzes will cover the reading assignment due for that day. They will consist of 5 questions. If you miss a class, you may make-up quizzes by taking it early or by taking it at home under the supervision of your parent.

CLASS PARTICIPATION:

Discussing the books we will read for class is a key way for you to learn from and share with your classmates. Please be respectful of the thoughts of others. Questions are important to ask so that you may understand the material better and I encourage them in class.

WRITING ASSIGNMENTS:

PAPERS:

You will have two papers over the course of the semester and we will work on editing and developing them throughout this course. The first paper will be a 4-5 page critical essay in the middle of the term and the second will be a 5-6 page research paper which will be due near the end of the semester. I will give more information closer to the due dates for each of these.

IMPORTANT WRITING INSTRUCTIONS:

- Each paper must be typed- I will not accept hand-written papers
- Each paper must be written in MLA format (we will go over what this is in class)
- A late paper will result in 5 points off for each day it is late; after two weeks, if you have not turned it in, I will no longer accept the assignment and you will receive a zero. (I will accept late papers via e-mail)

All reading assignments and homework are due on the day they are listed. You will be quizzed on those readings and keeping up with homework is essential for your success in this class.

*All poems and short stories will be provided by myself and you need not purchase them

DATE	READING ASSIGNMENTS/ HOMEWORK
August 21	Make sure you have purchased all required books and have printed off a copy of the syllabus for us to go over in class. Read through the syllabus with your parent and both they and you should sign this syllabus below and return on the first day of class.
August 28	Read Chapters 5-7 of <i>Le Morte D'Arthur</i> (provided in class)
September 4	Read <i>Beowulf</i> lines 1-990 / Turn in your thesis and introductory paragraph for your midterm paper
September 11	Read <i>Beowulf</i> lines 991-2038
September 18	Read <i>Beowulf</i> lines 2039-3182/ Turn in your outline for your midterm paper

DATE	READING ASSIGNMENTS/ HOMEWORK
September 25	<i>Sir Gawain and the Green Knight</i> Parts 1-2 (lines 1-1125)/ Turn in your rough draft for your midterm paper
October 2*	<i>Sir Gawain and the Green Knight</i> parts 3-4 (lines 1126-2531)
October 9	Read Acts 1-2 of <i>Macbeth</i> / Turn in final draft for your Midterm paper
October 16	Read Act 3 of <i>Macbeth</i> / Turn in your thesis, introduction, and works cited page for your Final paper
October 23	Read Acts 4-5 of <i>Macbeth</i>
October 30	Read Part 1 of <i>Murder on the Orient Express</i> / Turn in your detailed outline and your 20 notecards for your Final paper
November 6	Read Part 2 of <i>Murder on the Orient Express</i>
November 13	Read Part 3 of <i>Murder on the Orient Express</i> / Turn in your rough draft for your Final paper
November 20	Read chapters 1-5 of <i>The Hound of Baskervilles</i>
November 27	Miss this class desperately- shed a tear or two
December 4	Read chapters 6-10 of <i>The Hound of Baskervilles</i> / Turn in your final paper
December 11*	Read chapters 11-15 of <i>The Hound of Baskervilles</i>

Parents/ Students: if you ever have questions or concerns please do not hesitate to ask!

Beth Upper
upperbeth@gmail.com

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Student Signature _____ Date _____