

# English III: British Literature

## *Syllabus*

### Course Standards

Students will be reading and analyzing classic works of British literature.

Throughout this course students will be expected to:

- \***Work independently through challenging readings and determine plot, meaning, and themes.**
- \***Analyze important themes, symbolism, and characters in classic works of British literature.**
- \***Work individually as well as in groups to reflect and analyze class topics.**
- \***Improve our test taking abilities through PSAT/SAT preparation.**
- \***Improve our writing skills by examining class topics and learning from our mistakes and challenges, individually and as a class.**

### Course Methodology

We will achieve our objectives by bettering ourselves as **individuals**.

We will do this by:

- \*Never giving up.
- \*Learning from our mistakes.
- \*Picking ourselves up when we fall.
- \*Listening to advice, criticism, and compliments from Mr. Ruby as well as our classmates.

We will achieve our objectives by working together as a **team**.

We will do this by:

- \*Respecting each other.
- \*Listening to each other.
- \*Complimenting each other when one of us is successful.
- \*Supporting each other when we struggle.
- \*Work as a team – this means working together by listening, supporting, and communicating with each other. This also means fulfilling individual responsibilities so as to make yourself and others successful.

### Classroom Expectations

I expect you to want to be successful. I expect you to be successful.

Mr. Ruby's expectations for himself:

- \*Be organized.
- \*Be patient.
- \*Grade and return collected work, tests, and essays promptly.
- \*Communicate well and be clear with expectations and directions.

Mr. Ruby's expectations for the class:

- \*Be RESPECTFUL.
  - Respect yourself as a person.
  - Behave like you respect yourself.
  - Respect your classmates. Be patient and helpful with others as you want them to be with you.

- \*Be in class, and be in class on time.
  - This expectation will have a major impact on your grade.
  - Absences and tardies will have a direct impact on your grade.
  
- \*Be prepared for class.
  - Do your homework. This includes readings, written assignments, essays, and preparation for exams.
  - **All students must have a pen, notebook, and a folder no later than Thursday, September 6.** These items can be attained at the store for just a few dollars.
  - Be organized. Have your materials, readings, and work with you **Everyday.** This will not only affect your success in this class, but also your participation grade.
  - Bring your assigned plays, books, or handouts to class **everyday.**
  
- \*Come to class ready to learn, participate, and be successful. We all have bad days, but we need to work through them.
  - Be respectful to others.
  - Respect yourself.
  - Be patient with yourself and others.
  - Be mature young women and men.
  - **Communicate your frustrations instead of simply getting angry.**
  - ***Remember why you're here – live your life with a sense of purpose!***

**Grading Scale**

- \*Homework/Class Work: 30%
- \*Participation: 20%  
(participating in class, materials, directions, attendance, punctuality)
- \*Mastery: 40%  
(Tests, Quizzes, Writing Assignments and Tasks, Projects)
- \*Final Exam: 10%

**Materials**

\*See above for requirements regarding **pen, notebook, and folder.**

**Homework**

- \*Do your readings and homework.
- \*Study for tests and complete projects to the best of your ability.
- \*I will accept late homework *within reason* for less points.

**Readings**

* <i>Julius Caesar</i> , by William Shakespeare – play
* <i>Othello</i> , by William Shakespeare – play
* <i>Frankenstein</i> , by Mary Shelley – novel
**Poems by various English poets – handout.
*And others . . .

**Major Ideas, Concepts, and Themes of the Course**

*Conflict	*Ambition	*Tragedy	*Greed	*Hubris
*Self-destruction	*Jealousy	*Love	*Individualism	
*The impact of human emotion in conflict.		*Isolation	*Creation	
*The price of ambition for the state as well as individual.				
*The creation and definition of the individual through action and emotion.				

