

Course Syllabus English 2323 British Literature II

Course Description: This is a survey course on British literature from the Romantic Period up to the 20th century. Students will do selected readings and be involved in classroom discussion and analysis of those readings. They will produce essays, research-based papers, and take examinations over the material covered. In some cases they will do classroom presentations over thematic topics in the readings.

Prerequisites: Completion of English 1301-1302

Course Objectives:

1. Demonstrate the ability to think critically about notable works of British literature from the Romantic Period to the present.
2. Demonstrate the ability to read assigned texts closely, develop interpretational analyses of those texts, and clearly articulate the findings of those critical interpretational analyses.
3. Recognize the major movements and periods of British literature from the Romantic Period to the present.
4. Discuss the basic and more abstract elements of different genres of literature of this period using the appropriate literary terminology.
5. Recognize recurring cultural and literary themes as they appear in selected works of this period of British literature.
6. Communicate this understanding of British literature using well-organized, lucid prose.

Required readings/Materials:

Textbook: The Norton Anthology of English Literature, 8th ed., Vol. B

Various class handouts

Course Requirements:

Students are expected to attend class daily and concentrate on the material covered, taking appropriate notes and contributing to class discussions. Writing assignments and presentation assignments will be given in advance and it is expected that they will be ready on the date due. Essays will be graded based on a rubric specific to that essay, and points will be deducted based on mechanical errors or flaws in writing style. Students guilty of plagiarism will lose credit for that assignment. Students in high school concurrent classes will be required to produce a book report each six weeks. Late assignments will be deducted at the rate of ten points per day, with no credit given after five days. All assignments will carry equal weight.

Grading Policy:

90-100=A

80-89=B

70-79=C

60-69=D (For the high school grade, any average below a 70 is considered failing)

Below 60=F

Conduct and Behavior:

Students should remember that even though this is a college-level course, we are still in a high school setting and are subject to school rules and the student handbook.

Summary of Assignments and Activities:

Age of Romanticism---Literary Unit--- Selected readings by authors from this period.

Victorian Age--- Literary Unit--- Selected readings by authors; thematic unit on the nature of evil from Conrad's Heart of Darkness.

Early 20th century---Literary unit---Selected readings, with thematic unit on the Great War and 20th century disillusionment.

George Orwell's 1984 ---Literary Unit---In-depth study of the novel, with research assignment.

Angela's Ashes --- Literary Unit--- In-depth study of this novel, with research assignment.

Contact Information: Students may contact me at Crane High School (432-558-1030) during the school day, or on my cell phone (432-661-9324) during non-school hours. My e-mail address is rifer@craneisd.com.