

BRITISH LITERATURE & COMPOSITION SYLLABUS

DOE course number: 23.05200; one core credit

Margaret Shuman, Instructor; shumanhw@gmail.com

SEMESTER 1: THE HERITAGE OF BRITISH LIT

Anglo Saxons, Middle Ages, Renaissance

- Becoming comfortable with old works
- Learning how to read poetry so that it makes sense
- Analyzing context, theme, and purpose
- Identifying literary devices
- Presenting orally and visually, in groups as well as solo
- Taking notes and writing good discussion answers for unit tests

SEMESTER 2: BRITAIN DEVELOPS ITS VOICE

Age of Reason, Romantics, Victorians, Moderns

- Continuing extensive literary analysis
- Working through the novel
- Making proposals and serving in informal mock trial
- Researching and reporting well, using MLA style
- Working in groups to present a mock trial to the public
- Reviewing "whole picture" of Brit Lit's major perspectives and works

Primary Text: *England in Literature* (Medallion Edition-Hamlet), Scott Foresman, 1979, ISBN 0673129225, and Dover Thrift edition of *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley. Text and *Frankenstein* available from instructor.

Summer reading: Participation is optional and for extra credit. See MargaretShuman.com for instructions.

Late work policy: Students may miss a deadline each semester for any reason and still have an assignment receive a grade with no penalty. After grace is given once each semester, except for extreme situations, late work can only be submitted if a student arranges a conference that fits the schedule of a parent/guardian, Mrs. Shuman, and the student.

Honors Credit: See link at www.MargaretShuman.com in the Brit Lit course description.