



# Southern Lehigh School District

High School Syllabus

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## Honors English 12

2014-15

### Course Description:

The Honors English 12 course is a study of British literature spanning its emergence through the twentieth century. Students will explore works in a variety of genres including poetry, drama, and novels, as well as supplementary readings to enhance depth of understanding. Students will extensively read and critically respond to literature through discussion, writing, and projects that require the demonstration of higher-order thinking skills. Writing skills will be addressed, with an emphasis on preparing students for college-level writing. Assignments in this course will also include a college application essay at the start of the fall semester.

### Course Content:

College Application Essay  
Formal Essay Writing and Literary Criticism (ongoing)  
Vocabulary and Grammar in Context (ongoing)  
Emergent Literature  
Medieval Literature  
Renaissance Literature  
Metaphysical Poetry  
Gothic/Romantic Literature  
Victorian Literature  
Modern/Postmodern Literature  
Independent Learning Project

### Required Textbooks and/or Other Reading/Research Materials

The following major works may be explored throughout the year, along with a variety of supplementary readings where appropriate. Original publication dates are listed, and most titles have been published numerous times under different publishers. In most cases, any edition is acceptable, but specific editions are indicated for older titles requiring translation. Texts will be made available, but students are welcome to bring their own copies or download electronic e-reader versions, which are often free. Most titles are also available free on the Internet.

*Beowulf* by Anonymous (circa 725 AD), translated by Burton Raffel. Signet Classics, 2008.

*Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* by Anonymous (1300s), translated by J.R.R. Tolkien. Del Rey, 1979.

*The Canterbury Tales* by Geoffrey Chaucer (1300s), translated by Nevin Coghill. Penguin Classics, 1966, 1977, 2005.

*Othello* by William Shakespeare. 1604.

*Much Ado About Nothing* by William Shakespeare. 1606.

*Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley. 1818.

*Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte. 1847.

*Pygmalion* by George Bernard Shaw. 1912.

*Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley. 1932.

### Course Requirements:

Students are expected to come to class prepared with all necessary materials and complete all assignments on time. If you are absent for any reason, it is your responsibility to see your teacher for missed work. Please refer to the policy in the student handbook for timelines to make up missed work and tests.

### Grade Components/Assessments:

Grades will fall into three weighted categories: Assessments (50%), Assignments (40%), and Participation (10%). Graded items may include (but are not limited to) class preparation, reading and writing assignments, group and individual projects, tests, quizzes, class discussions, and other forms of participation.

Each marking period is worth 20% of a student's overall grade. The final exam is worth 20% of a student's overall average. There is no midterm.

Quarter 1	20%
Quarter 2	20%
Quarter 3	20%
Quarter 4	20%
<b>Final</b>	<b>20%</b>

### Required Summer Reading/Assignments:

Students entering Honors English 12 are required to read a total of five books from the following categories:

#### **GROUP A – Ambition and Success (Must Read BOTH)**

- [\*Macbeth\*](#) by William Shakespeare (Drama - Original or No Fear version acceptable.)
- [\*Outliers\*](#) by Malcolm Gladwell (Nonfiction)

#### **GROUP B – Victorian Classics (Choose ONE)**

- [\*Pride and Prejudice\*](#) by Jane Austen
- [\*The Picture of Dorian Gray\*](#) by Oscar Wilde
- [\*Hard Times\*](#) by Charles Dickens

#### **GROUP C – Science Fiction and Fantasy (Choose ONE)**

- [\*The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy\*](#) by Douglas Adams
- [\*The Golden Compass\*](#) by Philip Pullman
- [\*1984\*](#) by George Orwell

#### **GROUP D – Contemporary Award Winners (Choose ONE)**

- [\*The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time\*](#) by Mark Haddon
- [\*The Ocean at the End of the Lane\*](#) by Neil Gaiman
- [\*Behind the Scenes at the Museum\*](#) by Kate Atkinson