

English 2321 – British Literature
Fall 2026
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Office Hours: M-F – 8-8:30am

Course Description: This course is a survey of the development of British literature from the Anglo-Saxon period to the present. Students will study works of prose, poetry, drama, and fiction in relation to their historical, linguistic, and cultural contexts.

Semester Hours: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Lab Hours: 0

Pre-requisite: ENGL 1301 and 1302.

Note: This course satisfies a 040 Language, Philosophy and Culture Core Curriculum requirement.

Textbook: *Norton Anthology of World Literature*, Shorter Fourth Edition, Volume 1, 2018.
ISBN-13: 978-0393602876

Supplies: Access to computer with printer and Internet access

Core Curriculum Objectives addressed:

- **Communications skills**—to include effective written, oral and visual communication
- **Critical thinking skills**—to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- **Social Responsibility**—to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities
- **Personal Responsibility**—to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.

Student Learning Outcomes: Upon successful completion of this course students should be able to:

1. critically evaluate masterpieces of literature in terms of the constituent elements of the genre, including essential biographical, cultural, and historical contexts (names of principal characters and details of plot and setting are to be included);
2. understand the distinguishing elements of non-fiction, fiction, poetry, and drama;
3. discuss in depth the characteristics of British literature
4. write about literature in a variety of modes in a way that sequentially and cumulatively builds upon the writing skills developed in the writing sequence

5. understand and demonstrate personal and academic responsibility and integrity.

Student Learning Outcomes Assessment: A pre- and post-test or assignment rubric may be used to determine the extent of improvement that the students have gained during the semester.

Blended Learning: This course will utilize in-person instruction as well as online learning platforms such as Blackboard. Instructional content will be delivered in both live and online formats. Students will have opportunities to take part in synchronous as well as asynchronous discussions. Select assignments will be completed electronically, while others will be offered in print formats. Through “blended learning,” students will practice navigating a wide range of tools and adjusting to fluid social situations that may arise during the learning process.

Technology Requirements:

1. **SPC username and password:** email helpdesk@southplainscollege.edu or call the SPC Help Desk at 806-716-2600 for help with your username/password
2. **SPC student email access:**
 - **SPC Student Email Account:** If you haven't already, you must go ahead and activate your SPC student email account. Not only will you need access to your SPC email account to receive TURNITIN digital paper submission receipts for our class, but you must use it to communicate with me.
 - Your SPC Email address is: **yourSPCusername@southplainscollege.edu** (ex. jsmith1234@southplainscollege.edu).
 - Your student email password is the same as your Blackboard password. If you need help, call the SPC Help Desk at 806-716-2600.
 - To access your SPC email account, log in to [MySPC here](#)
 - You can also set up access to your SPC email account through mobile phone mail apps, such as default smartphone Mail app or the Outlook app.
 - Check with the SPC Help Desk for assistance: 806-716-2600.
3. **Regular access to a computer and reliable internet service:**
 - Open computer labs are available free to students with an SPC I.D. on all SPC campuses (Levelland, Lubbock Downtown Center, Lubbock Career and Technical Center, Plainview).
 - Computer or internet connection problems may occur for you at some point this semester. **Understand that it is your responsibility to find alternate computers you may use to submit your work on time.** Find your alternate resources **now**; do not wait until you suddenly need them! Line up three friends TODAY who would be willing to loan you a laptop if yours suddenly crashes.
 - Free WiFi is available in all SPC campus buildings, some SPC parking lots, most coffee shops, etc.
4. **Blackboard:** grades, assignments, quizzes, videos, and many other resources for this class are accessed through the Blackboard learning management system. Use your SPC credentials to log in here: <https://southplainscollege.blackboard.com>

Graded Course Evaluation:

Response Papers (5)	10 points each	
Class Participation	25 points	
Discussion Boards (5)	10 points each	450-500 points = A (90-100)
Multimodal Projects (5)	60 points each	400-449 points = B (80-89)
Final Exam	75 points	375-399 points = C (75-79)
		350-374 points = D (70-74)
		0-299 points = F (0-69)
Total Points Possible	500 points	

Assignments and Due Dates: Students will submit all written assignments either on Blackboard or on paper in class.

Course Organization: The course is organized into five modules based both in time period and an essential question. Students will focus on analyzing literature through both historical and cultural lenses while also answering questions like:

What makes a hero? What does society value? Who are we really? Who gets labeled monstrous or different? How should we live when there isn't an easy right answer?

MODULE 1: August 24 - September 11

The Epic of Gilgamesh
Beowulf
Judith

MODULE 2: September 14 - October 2

Canterbury Tales
Selected Poetry

MODULE 3: October 2 - October 23

The Tragedy of Macbeth
Self Selected Shakespeare Play
Selected Sonnets

MODULE 4: October 26 - November 13

Frankenstein
Self Selected Novel

MODULE 5: November 16 - December 4

Contemporary British Novels

Multimodal Project Rubric: The following rubric will be used to assess each of the multimodal projects throughout the semester. There will be an additional rubric provided for the literary analysis essay that will pair with Module 3.

Total: 60 Points

Category	Exemplary	Proficient	Developing	Beginning
Literary Analysis 15 pts	14–15: Demonstrates insightful and thorough understanding of the literature. Moves beyond summary to analyze themes, characters, conflicts, genre, symbols, or authorial choices. Makes meaningful connections between ideas.	11–13: Demonstrates clear understanding of the literature and provides appropriate analysis. Most ideas move beyond plot summary.	8–10: Demonstrates general understanding but relies on summary or surface-level observations. Analysis may be inconsistent or underdeveloped.	0–7: Demonstrates limited understanding of the literature. Provides mostly summary, inaccurate interpretation, or little meaningful analysis.
Textual Evidence 12 pts	11–12: Uses specific, well-chosen evidence from the text(s) to support ideas. Quotations, details, and examples are clearly connected to the student's analysis.	9–10: Uses relevant textual evidence to support most ideas. Connections between evidence and analysis are generally clear.	6–8: Includes some textual evidence, but evidence may be general, limited, poorly integrated, or insufficiently explained.	0–5: Uses little or no textual evidence, or evidence does not effectively support the student's ideas.
Research & Context 8 pts	8: Incorporates accurate and relevant historical, cultural, literary, or scholarly research that deepens the interpretation of the text. Sources are credible and	6–7: Includes relevant outside research that contributes to understanding of the text. Sources are generally credible and documented.	4–5: Includes limited research or context. Connections between research and literature may be unclear or superficial.	0–3: Includes minimal, inaccurate, irrelevant, or undocumented research.

appropriately
documented.

**Purpose &
Audience 8 pts**

8: Project has a clear, thoughtful purpose and is intentionally designed for its intended audience. Content, tone, organization, and creative choices consistently support that purpose.

6–7: Project has a clear purpose and generally considers its intended audience. Most choices support the project's goals.

4–5: Purpose or audience is somewhat unclear. Some choices seem disconnected from the project's intended message.

0–3: Project lacks a clear purpose or demonstrates little awareness of audience.

**Multimodal
Design 9 pts**

9: Uses multiple modes—such as written text, visuals, audio, video, performance, graphics, or interactive elements—purposefully. Design choices enhance the project's meaning rather than simply decorate it.

7–8: Uses multiple modes effectively. Most design choices contribute to meaning and presentation.

5–6: Includes multiple modes, but some elements appear decorative, disconnected, distracting, or underdeveloped.

0–4: Makes minimal use of multimodal elements, or design choices interfere with communication.

**Communication
&
Craftsmanship
8 pts**

8: Project is polished, organized, engaging, and easy to follow. Written and/or spoken communication is clear and appropriate. Demonstrates strong preparation

6–7: Project is organized and understandable with minor errors or inconsistencies. Demonstrates appropriate preparation.

4–5: Organization or communication is inconsistent. Errors, missing components, or lack of preparation occasionally interfere with understanding.

0–3: Project is incomplete, difficult to follow, or demonstrates insufficient preparation. Errors significantly interfere with communication.

and attention to detail.

Student Responsibilities:

Students are expected to:

1. Be on time and regularly attend class
2. Be responsible for the learning process, including preparation for class, such as reading and homework; participation in class discussions, including asking relevant questions; getting assignments and/or notes if absent; and accepting responsibility for not understanding an assignment or failing an assignment
3. Be responsible for having an appropriate attitude and using appropriate language in academic environments; not use condescending, inflammatory, threatening, or profane rhetoric, whether verbally or in written form, in academic environments
4. Have respectful behavior toward instructor and classmates in order to contribute to the atmosphere necessary for learning
5. Be responsible for courteous actions to others, especially by putting away cell phones and other distractions while in class
6. Be responsible for writing down all grades and applying them to the grading scale used for the class, which is shown in the course's policy statement/syllabus
7. Submit all assignments in accordance with due dates, formats, and requirements
8. Avoid all forms of cheating and plagiarism on all assignments, including improper collaboration
9. Ask questions when something is unclear.

Attendance Policy: To be successful in this course, you must attend consistently and punctually and participate fully.

For in-person courses, attendance counts as part of your course grade.

1. Students who enroll in a course but have "Never Attended" (in-person class) or who have not logged into the Blackboard class (for a fully-online course) by the official census date will be administratively dropped by the Admissions Office.
2. Attendance is taken at the beginning of class each day. If you miss more than 15 minutes of class at any point during a class meeting, you are counted absent and receive 0 attendance points for that day. Be aware that you must be mentally present in class to be counted present for the day. Additionally, students who are unable to participate in discussion when called upon will receive 0 attendance points for that day.
3. Please present an official SPC notification in advance if you are going to miss class for a school-sponsored event. I will work with you to avoid missing any deadlines.
4. It's your responsibility to drop the course if you stop attending.
5. I will accommodate extenuating circumstances at my discretion.

Plagiarism and Cheating: There is zero tolerance for academic dishonesty in this course. Do not under any circumstances use words you didn't write in an essay or assignment without proper documentation (including AI generated content). If you're not sure about proper documentation, you must reach out via email or office hours to ensure academic integrity. Plagiarism will automatically result in an F for the assignment and can result in getting dropped from the course with an F. In addition, an Academic Dishonesty Report may be filed with the Dean of Students.

Plagiarism violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Using Artificial Intelligence websites or apps to generate or revise all or part of a paper or other assignment;

2. Turning in a paper or submitting work that has been purchased, borrowed, or downloaded from another writer or from an online site or is the product of collusion with another person or mechanism;
3. Cutting and pasting together information from books, articles, other papers, or online sites without providing proper documentation;
4. Using direct quotations (three or more words) from a source without showing them to be direct quotations and citing them;
5. Submitting an assignment for this course that you also submitted to another course without my express approval;
6. Missing in-text citations and/or missing works cited entries.

Cheating violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Obtaining an examination by stealing or collusion;
2. Discovering the content of an examination before it is given;
3. Using an unauthorized source of information (notes, textbook, texting, internet, Quizlet, etc.) during an examination, quiz, or homework assignment;
4. Entering an office or building to obtain unfair advantage;
5. Taking an examination for another;
6. Altering grade records;
7. Copying another's work during an examination or on a homework assignment;
8. Rewriting another student's work in Peer Reviews so that the writing is no longer the original student's;
9. Taking pictures of a test, test answers, or someone else's paper.

Intellectual Exchange Statement, Disabilities, Non-discrimination, Title V Pregnancy Accommodations, CARE (Campus Assessment, Response, and Evaluation) Team, Campus Concealed Carry: For information regarding official South Plains College policies on these topics, please visit: <https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/>.