



British Literature, 11th/12th grades

This college-preparatory high school English class is designed to help 11th and 12th graders take the next steps in literary analysis and academic writing. They will read a variety of British literature from many time periods, extract important themes, participate in Socratic discussion, and engage personally with the texts by keeping a Commonplace book. Students will spend 4-5 hours preparing for class by developing their own questions and topics of discussion, writing long-form responses, and considering connections to other literature as well as to their own lives. Each semester, students will develop two academic essays and a creative project connected to the literature. Poetry as well as a research paper will also be included. British Literature may be taken at an honors level; parents and students can choose this option in the first weeks of school.

Schedule: British Literature will meet on Wednesday mornings from 9:15 AM-12:15 PM at the Chapel Hill Bible Church for lecture, discussion, and group projects.

Attendance and Pacing: Each class will cover a large amount of material, so attendance is crucial for student success. Barring exceptional circumstances, students who miss 5 or more sessions over the course of the year will not be assigned a final grade. Students who miss class are expected to make up missed work.

Student Expectations: BritLit is a higher level high school level class, and students must be able to function with maturity in their academics as well as in organization, class participation, and work completion. In class, they will be expected to attend carefully to instruction, participate actively, and take notes as needed. Students are expected to complete 4-5 hours of work at home throughout the week. They will be responsible to come to class prepared with completed work as assigned.

Honors Option: Students have the option to take this course as an honors course. This will involve additional and/or different assignments that require students to delve deeper into the material.

Parent Expectations: Parents should provide light supervision as needed.

Prerequisites and Placement: Students must have an expected graduation date of 2026 or 2027 to take this course. Students should be able to maintain an organized notebook and keep track of assignments. **Applicants coming from outside Deerstream will be required to submit a writing sample.**

Grades and High School Credit: English is a one credit high school level class, so formal assessments will be conducted, and students will receive grades that take into account homework, classwork, projects, quizzes, and tests.