

British Literature

Instructor: Heather Fowler

Grades: 9-12

Prerequisites: None

Cost: \$30 per month tuition plus \$20 per year materials fee

Credit: 1 unit of English

Overview: This course focuses on the linguistic development of the English language and the early period of English literature. Have you ever wondered why we write “knight” but say “nite” (or about a myriad of other crazy spellings)? We will learn the answer to this question (and many others), as we look at how historical invasions of the British Isles shaped and formed the international language we speak today. We will also study literature, from Anglo Saxon *Beowulf*, through Chaucer’s Middle English *Canterbury Tales*, to Shakespeare’s sonnets and plays (which are, believe it or not, written in modern English). We will learn to interact with, analyze, and write about the texts we study, with the goal of understanding and appreciating our own language and great works of literature that still have relevance today.

Curriculum: *King Alfred's English: A History of the Language We Speak and Why We Should Be Glad We Do*, Laurie J. White. Publisher: The Shorter Word Press (October 24, 2009). ISBN-10: 0980187710. Available via Amazon. **I may be able to buy in bulk and get a significant discount, depending on our class size.** Student will also need copies of various works easily available via library or public domain, including Shakespeare’s *Macbeth*, *Hamlet*, and *Much Ado About Nothing*.

Additional Requirements: Internet access and a printer

Homework: Class work and homework include reading, responding to what is read through a variety of weekly writing assignments, and internet based research to prepare short class presentations. Students will have short quizzes and a few tests, both short answer/multiple choice and essay format.

Min/Max: 5/15

LHE Pre-enrollment (must be completed before course enrollment): Don’t type anything here!

Course Enrollment & Questions: Mrs. Fowler at hfowlerlogos@gmail.com