

British Literature and Composition is a two-semester course aligned to the English Language Arts Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE) 9-12. This course asks students to closely analyze literature from the British Isles and beyond and consider how humans define and interact with the unknown, the monstrous, and the heroic. In the epic poems *The Odyssey*, *Beowulf*, and *The Inferno*, in Shakespeare's *Tempest*, in the satire of Swift, and in the rhetoric of World War II, students examine how the ideas of "heroic" and "monstrous" have been defined across cultures and time periods and how the treatment of the "other" can make monsters or heroes of us all. Reading *Frankenstein* and works from those who experienced the imperialism of the British Empire, students explore the notion of inner monstrosity and consider how the dominant culture can be seen as monstrous in its seemingly heroic goal of enlightening the world. Throughout this course, students analyze a wide range of literature, both fiction and nonfiction. They build writing skills by composing analytical essays, persuasive essays, personal narratives, and research papers. To develop speaking and listening skills, students participate in discussions and prepare speeches. Overall, students gain an understanding of the way world literature represents the array of voices that contribute to our global identity.

There are no required materials for this course.

Length: Two Semesters

### Unit 1: Monsters and Heroes

- The Monstrous Cyclops
- A Hero's Story
- The Dimensions of the Monster
- Wrap-Up: Monsters and Heroes

### Unit 2: Sins and Crimes

- Chaucer
- Dante's Inferno
- Wrap-Up: Sins and Crimes

### Unit 3: *The Tempest*

- Historical Context
- Language as Power
- Interpretations of *The Tempest*
- Wrap-Up: *The Tempest*

### Unit 4: Swift and Defoe

- Swift and Satire
- *Robinson Crusoe*, Part I
- *Robinson Crusoe*, Part II
- Wrap-Up: Swift and Defoe

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**Unit 5: Semester Wrap-Up**

- Semester Wrap-Up

**Unit 6: *Frankenstein***

- Creating a Monster
- Conflicting Sides
- Monstrous Risks
- Wrap-Up: Frankenstein

**Unit 7: World War II**

- Winston Churchill
- Joseph Stalin
- Wrap-Up: World War II

**Unit 8: The Colonizers and the Colonized**

- Power Struggles
- Surprising Perspectives
- Gender Imperialism
- Wrap-Up: The Colonizers and the Colonized

**Unit 9: The Modern and the Media**

- The Evolution of British Drama
- Media Perspectives
- Procedural and Informational Texts
- Wrap-Up: The Modern and the Media

**Unit 10: Semester Wrap-Up**

- Semester Wrap-Up