British Literature and Composition is a two-semester course designed to allow students to closely analyze texts from throughout history and consider how humans define and interact with the unknown, the monstrous, and the heroic. The course prompts students to survey major works of British and world literature and nonfiction, analyzing and evaluating texts by a range of authors. Feedback-rich interactive exercises, assignment prompts, and discussions challenge students to present original ideas, collaborate with peers, interpret and incorporate non-text media, and communicate clearly and persuasively through both writing and speaking. Texts are presented with introductory videos, vocabulary support, and question prompts that aid in comprehension and analysis. Written assignments are framed by direct instruction about the skills students must apply, prompts that guide students through each step of the writing process, and self-evaluation rubrics.

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

Unit 5: Semester Wrap-Up

- Semester Wrap-Up

Unit 6: Frankenstein

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- 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

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