 **Course Description**

This course is a survey of British and World literature from the Anglo-Saxon period to the twenty-first century. Analytical, persuasive, and creative writing will be studied. In addition to literature, throughout the year the study of grammar and usage will be implemented into the curriculum to improve written and oral communication skills as well as to prepare students for college entrance exams. Projects during the year will include a documented research paper.

 **Course Standards**

This course will follow national, Sunshine State, and OCPS Benchmarks (available upon request).

 **Materials**

Students are expected to bring paper (no spiral notebooks, please!), pen, and the appropriate texts to class daily. Students should also have a flash drive or access to a cloud storage account like Dropbox or SugarSync for electronic assignments.

 **Expectations**

* **Behavior:** Students are to observe the rules stated in the student handbook and to exhibit honesty, self-discipline, and responsibility in and out of class. Students are expected to be courteous and supportive of classmates during class discussion, an integral part of the class.
* **Electronics:** Unless we are using them as part of a classroom activity, your cell phone or other electronic devices (iPod, eReader, iPad, etc.) should not be heard, seen, or in use during class. We reserve the right to confiscate any devices which interrupt the learning in our classrooms.
* **Plagiarism:** Formal written assignments prepared out of class will be verified for correct use and documentation of source material. The penalty for plagiarism as defined in the AP Honor Code is an automatic F (zero) grade on the assignment with no opportunity to resubmit. Your choice will be reported to honors organizations and will result in an administrative referral.

 **Assessments and Grading**

Your grade will be calculated based on these kinds of assignments:

* **Major assignments (60%):** final drafts, projects, tests, seminars, presentations
* **Classwork/homework (40%):** first drafts, group work, peer reviews, quizzes, discussions, self-reflective assessments, outside reading, reader’s journals, bellwork, etc.

Grades will be determined using a point scale. Assessment instruments may include rubrics, checks for completion, percentages, etc.

**Grading Scale:** A 90-100 B 80-89 C 70-79 D 60-69 F 0-59

 **Extra Help and Parent Contact**

Students who need assistance with an assignment may schedule appointments with the instructor or seek assistance through the school tutoring program. Parents may contact teachers through email or voicemail. Conferences with the instructor must be scheduled through guidance.

 **Attendance and Makeup Work**

Regular and punctual attendance in class is essential. Excessive absences and/or tardies will nearly always reflect negatively on grades. The school policy will be followed regarding absences and tardies.

It is the student’s full responsibility to submit work on time. Computer/printer/flash drive submission issues do not entitle you to extended deadlines! Written classwork, assignments, and quizzes missed by an absence must be made up. Missed pre-assigned tests/reading quizzes will be administered on the day the student returns to class. Students should also obtain any notes or handouts distributed during the absence. Previously assigned work is not considered for extended late work due dates. Late work will be penalized 25% for each day past the due date. Please do not ask for makeup work during class!

 **Tentative Schedule**

* **First Nine Weeks:** Selections from the Anglo-Saxon period;on-going development of writing style and vocabulary development, study of literary conventions; selected reading of poetry and prose.
* **Second Nine Weeks:** Selections from the Medieval Period; continued development of writing style and vocabulary development, study of literary conventions; selected reading of poetry and prose.
* **Third Nine Weeks:** Selections from the Renaissance Period; continued development of writing style and vocabulary development, study of literary conventions; selected reading of poetry and prose.
* **Fourth Nine Weeks:** Selected readings and continued study of conventions of writing.

Required Texts

*Beowulf*

*The Canterbury Tales*

A Shakespearean tragedy

Selected Texts

*Grendel*

*Lord of the Flies*

*Brave New World*

*Cry, the Beloved Country*

*1984*

*One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest*

*The Importance of Being Earnest*

A documented research paper will be required by all students. Scheduling of papers dependent on availability of media center.

 **Online Tools**

To prepare students for the collegiate environment, we will be employing several online resources regularly. It is vital that each student have an active email address to complete verifications for many of these sites. Creating one password that you will use for each of these tools will simplify your life! These resources will include:

* **Mrs. Wells’s Teacher Website** (teacherpress.ocps.net/wellsml) – When in doubt, check the website! Detailed instructions for how to complete assignments, links for help with English, college testing, and more may be found here.
* **Dropbox** (dropbox.com) – free online cloud storage
* **Evernote** (evernote.com) – online notetaking and organization tool
* **Edmodo** (ocps.edmodo.com) – discussions, notifications, quizzes, calendar. Edmodo is an OCPS-approved social networking site designed to facilitate classroom communication. To sign up for Edmodo, complete the following:
  + Navigate to ocps.edmodo.com
  + Under Create Your Account, click on “I’m a Student”
  + Enter the group code for your class period:
    - 1st period – avyb23
    - 2nd period – 97asab
    - 3rd period – wf4jj3
  + Complete the rest of the form (hint: choose a password that is easy to remember; I cannot retrieve them!) and click to submit.
  + When you log in for the first time, you may choose or upload an icon associated with your name. Be creative and school-appropriate. ☺
  + Post the title of your favorite children’s book to the group to let us know you’re here.

Parent codes for Edmodo will be distributed once the class is populated.

NOTE: An Edmodo account is required for the course. Please complete your Edmodo signup by the end of the first week of school. Points will be awarded for your timely completion.

**Thank you! I’m looking forward to a great year in English IV!**

Jane gutherman mary louise wells

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407.355.3200 x6052206 407.355.3200 x6052821

http://teacherpress.ocps.net/wellsml  
Text: *Elements of Literature, Sixth Course;* supplementary novels, short stories, plays, and poetry.

**English IV Honors**

**Course Number 1001410**

