

English 12, Semester A

Credits: 0.5

Course Overview and Goals

English/Language Arts is the study of the creation and analysis of literature written in the English language. In English 12, Semester A, you will explore the relation between British history and literature from the Anglo-Saxon period through the neoclassical era, including the works of Shakespeare. You will read and analyze a variety of literary works from this time period by using relevant cultural and political history presented in each lesson. In this course, you will also study a variety of techniques to improve your reading comprehension, writing skills, and grammar and mechanics. The instruction covers many types of writing: creative, descriptive, expository, narrative, and persuasive. In addition, you will complete writing activities using your analytical and persuasive skills.

By the end of this course, you will be able to do the following:

- ❖ Identify major periods in the development of the English language from Old English to Middle English to Modern English
- ❖ Analyze the development of major literary works from the era of Old English (*Beowulf*)
- ❖ Investigate the historical and cultural significance of British literature during the middle ages, including Arthurian legends and Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*
- ❖ Recognize the early development of theater in England during the middle ages
- ❖ Evaluate the importance of the Reformation on the formation of the English Renaissance and its writers
- ❖ Review the history and form of sonnets
- ❖ Analyze the dramatic works of Shakespeare, both tragedy and comedy, in terms of the history of drama in England and the role of women, character development, plot, conflict, and themes
- ❖ Investigate the transition from the Renaissance to the neoclassical period, including the role of metaphysical poetry; explore the significant political events that shaped Britain and their impact on neoclassical writers
- ❖ Recognize ways in which John Milton was a major figure of neoclassicism, even though his work was often atypical of the era

Scope and Sequence

This document outlines the design of English 12, Semester A, as well as the coverage of the Common Core State Standards within the course.

[Common Core Standards for English Language Arts](#)

UNIT 1: THE ANGLO-SAXON AND MEDIEVAL PERIODS (DAYS 1 – 30)

This unit focuses on the early periods of British literature, beginning with a lesson on the evolution of the English language and Anglo-Saxon literature. Subsequent lessons explore medieval literature and the impact of historical changes on literature.

Lesson/CCSS Standards	Lesson Objective
Syllabus and Orientation	Review the Student Orientation and Course Syllabus at the beginning of this course.
The History of the English Language 11-12.RL.1, 11-12.RL.3, 11-12.RL.4, 11-12.RL.5, 11-12.RI.1, 11-12.RI.3, 11-12.W.9.a, 11-12.W.9.b, 11-12.L.1.a, 11-12.L.1.b, 11-12.L.4.b, 11-12.L.4.c, 11-12.L.4.d, 11-12.L.5.b, 11-12.L.6	Identify the stages and key periods in the development of the English language.
Beowulf 11-12.RL.1, 11-12.RL.2, 11-12.RL.4, 11-12.RL.10, 11-12.W.9.a, 11-12.L.1.a, 11-12.L.1.b, 11-12.L.4.b, 11-12.L.4.d, 11-12.L.5.a	Investigate Old English and epic poetry by analyzing <i>Beowulf</i> .
Sir Gawain and the Green Knight 11-12.RL.1, 11-12.RL.3, 11-12.RL.4, 11-12.RL.9, 11-12.RL.10, 11-12.W.9.a, 11-12.L.1.a, 11-12.L.1.b, 11-12.L.4.b, 11-12.L.4.c, 11-12.L.4.d, 11-12.L.6	Analyze medieval English society, the legend of King Arthur, and the importance of <i>Sir Gawain and the Green Knight</i> in medieval English literature.
Chaucer and The Canterbury Tales 11-12.RL.2, 11-12.RL.4, 11-12.RL.5, 11-12.RL.6, 11-12.RL.10, 11-12.W.2.a, 11-12.W.2.b, 11-12.W.7, 11-12.W.9.a, 11-12.L.1.a, 11-12.L.4.a	Describe the historical context of <i>The Canterbury Tales</i> while analyzing selected tales from the poem itself.
The Development of Theater 11-12.RL.2, 11-12.RL.6, 11-12.RL.10, 11-12.W.4, 11-12.W.5	Investigate the development of theater in England while studying the morality play <i>Everyman</i> .
Unit Activity 11-12.RL.3, 11-12.RI.7, 11-12.W.4, 11-12.W.7, 11-12.W.8, 11-12.W.9.b, 11-12.W.10, 11-12.L.1.a, 11-12.L.6	Write arguments to support claims using valid reasoning or sufficient evidence and evaluate evidence from literary or informational text to support analysis and research.

UNIT 2: THE ENGLISH RENAISSANCE (DAYS 31 – 66)

This unit focuses on British literature of the Elizabethan and Jacobean periods, with an emphasis on the development of poetry and drama.

Lesson/CCSS Standards	Lesson Objective
An Introduction to the English Renaissance 11-12.RL.2, 11-12.RI.1, 11-12.RI.2, 11-12.RI.6, 11-12.L.4.b, 11-12.L.4.c	Analyze the Reformation and the English Renaissance and study the influence of this period on the works of Christopher Marlowe and other writers.
Sonnets 11-12.RL.4, 11-12.RL.6, 11-12.L.2.a, 11-12.L.4.b	Investigate the history of sonnets while analyzing the sonnets of Shakespeare and Petrarch.
Hamlet, Acts I, II, and III 11-12.RL.1, 11-12.RL.2, 11-12.RL.3, 11-12.RL.4, 11-12.RL.5, 11-12.W.2.b, 11-12.L.4.b, 11-12.L.4.c, 11-12.L.4.d, 11-12.L.5.a, 11-12.L.5.b, 11-12.L.6	Investigate Shakespeare's life and the influence of the time period on his plays while beginning a study of <i>Hamlet</i> , acts I, II, and III.
Hamlet, Acts IV and V 11-12.RL.2, 11-12.RL.3, 11-12.RL.5, 11-12.RL.7, 11-12.W.1.a, 11-12.W.2.b	Analyze the main elements of <i>Hamlet</i> , including character development and the overarching plot, while reading acts IV and V.
Twelfth Night, Acts I, II, and III 11-12.RL.1, 11-12.RL.2, 11-12.RL.5, 11-12.RL.6, 11-12.L.5.b	Investigate the role of women in Shakespeare's England and identify key plot elements of <i>Twelfth Night</i> , acts I, II, and III.
Twelfth Night, Acts IV and V 11-12.RL.1, 11-12.RL.2, 11-12.RL.3, 11-12.RL.4, 11-12.RL.5, 11-12.RL.6, 11-12.W.1.a, 11-12.L.3.a	Analyze the main plot points of <i>Twelfth Night</i> , including character development, conflict, and main themes, while reading acts IV and V.
The Metaphysical Poets 11-12.RL.1, 11-12.RL.4, 11-12.RL.9, 11-12.RI.1, 11-12.RI.2, 11-12.L.3.a, 11-12.L.4.a, 11-12.L.5.a	Investigate the historical context of metaphysical poetry, including its place in Jacobean and Carolinian England.
Unit Activity 11-12.RL.7, 11-12.W.2.b, 11-12.W.2.d, 11-12.W.4, 11-12.W.5, 11-12.W.10, 11-12.L.2.b, 11-12.L.6	Compare interpretations of drama with their texts.

UNIT 3: NEOCLASSICISM (DAYS 67 – 90)

This unit focuses on the religious turmoil in seventeenth-century England and its influence on the growth of neoclassicism. You will analyze the work of various period writers and investigate the social changes that Britain underwent in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

Lesson/CCSS Standards	Lesson Objective
The Roots of Neoclassicism 11-12.RL.1, 11-12.RL.4, 11-12.RL.9, 11-12.W.1.a, 11-12.W.2.b, 11-12.L.4.c, 11-12.L.4.d, 11-12.L.5.a, 11-12.L.5.b	Investigate England's continuing religious turmoil into the seventeenth century and how it influenced the early neoclassical writers.
John Milton 11-12.RL.1, 11-12.RL.4, 11-12.RL.7, 11-12.RI.4, 11-12.W.1.a, 11-12.W.1.b, 11-12.W.1.c, 11-12.W.1.d, 11-12.W.1.e, 11- 12.W.2.b, 11-12.W.4, 11-12.L.1.a, 11-12.L.3.a, 11-12.L.4.b, 11- 12.L.4.c, 11-12.L.4.d, 11-12.L.5.a	Investigate the works of John Milton and their place in the English Civil War and Restoration of seventeenth-century England.
Neoclassicism I 11-12.RL.4, 11-12.RI.1, 11-12.RI.2, 11-12.RI.3, 11-12.RI.4, 11- 12.RI.5, 11-12.RI.6, 11-12.RI.8, 11-12.RI.9, 11-12.W.1.a, 11- 12.W.2.b, 11-12.L.1.a	Analyze the political history of seventeenth- and eighteenth-century England and the impact of the time period on neoclassical writers.
Neoclassicism II 11-12.RL.4, 11-12.RL.5, 11-12.RL.6, 11-12.RI.8, 11-12.RI.9, 11- 12.RI.10, 11-12.W.2.b, 11-12.L.1.a	Evaluate the social changes of seventeenth- and eighteenth-century England and the impact of the time period on neoclassical writers.
Unit Activity 11-12.RI.10, 11-12.W.1.a, 11-12.W.1.b, 11-12.W.1.c, 11- 12.W.1.d, 11-12.W.1.e, 11-12.W.2.e, 11-12.W.2.f, 11-12.W.5, 11-12.L.2.b, 11-12.L.6	Write arguments using valid reasoning and sufficient evidence and write explanatory texts that convey complex concepts.
Discussing Literature and Government 11-12.SL.1.a, 11-12.SL.1.b, 11-12.SL.1.c, 11-12.SL.1.d, 11- 12.SL.2	Participate in a collaborative discussion.

Course Map

You will achieve course level objectives by completing each lesson's instruction, assignments, and assessments. For a detailed look at how the materials meet these objectives, review the [course map for Semester A](#).