

Norwood Public Schools
Grade 12 Irish Literature Curriculum Overview

Description (including primary objectives and outcomes):

This course is designed for those students who have a genuine interest in Irish literature. Students will explore the mythology, history, politics, religion, and culture of the island and how they have influenced its literature. Students will read critically and widely from Irish novels, plays, short stories and poetry from the 19th century to the present. Writers studied will include literary greats such as James Joyce, William Butler Yeats, Oscar Wilde, and George Bernard Shaw and modern writers such as Seamus Heaney, Brian Friel, and Edna O'Brien. One overarching question of the course will be what it means to be "Irish." Students will be assessed in a variety of ways including essays, tests, Socratic seminars and projects.

Learning Experiences:

Reading

Drawing inferences from a variety of texts

Analyzing parallels between characters in a variety of texts

Comparing and contrasting themes in a variety of texts and across genres

Analyzing literature within its historical context

Writing

Organizing and composing personal responses, literary analyses, and creative writing

Practicing the Writing Process (brainstorming ideas, narrowing the topic, gathering evidence, drafting the essay, revising the essay, editing, producing a final draft)

Gathering literary evidence to support a thesis

Speaking and Listening

Listening and contributing to class discussions

Presentations using power point, visuals, etc.

Defending opinions and ideas with textual, historical, and anecdotal evidence

Using discussion to review, evaluate, and develop ideas and formulate theses

Listening/responding to classmates' and teacher's ideas

Content Outline:

3/4 major work, poetry, core grammar, vocabulary from texts, Irish history unit

Resources Used:

Gulliver's Travels, *Angel's Ashes*, *Troubles*, *Playboy of the Western World*, *The Butcher Boy*
Yeats and Heaney poetry, short stories, film