

**British Literature
Spring 2017**

{THIS IS A ROUGH DRAFT OF SYLLABUS FOR SPRING 2017}

Texts and Readings

A Tale of Two Cities, Charles Dickens
Frankenstein, Mary Shelley
The Horse and His Boy, C.S. Lewis
Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy, Douglas Adams

Grading

Reading Quizzes: 33%
Group Presentations, homework 33%
Mock Trial: 34%

**Note: students must bring a copy of the material we are reading to each class (digital or hard copy format).*

Pre-Class Assignment (Over Christmas Break)

(1) Read *A Tale of Two Cities*. (2) Using your literary terms worksheet, find five examples of literary devices used (not including obvious examples like “character,” “plot,” or “setting.” Be specific—don’t write: “There is a tone in *A Tale of Two Cities*.”). (3) Use Signet Guide’s *A Tale of Two Cities* (<http://www.penguin.com/static/pdf/teachersguides/taletwocities.pdf>) to check your reading for each chapter. You don’t have to answer the questions but you may if you find it helpful.

Group Presentation

You will be assigned a group that will be in charge of preparing a 20-minute presentation for the class on one of the four assigned books. Your presentation needs to cover: (1) biography of author (including time period he wrote), (2) the significance of the work, (3) major themes in the work (including author’s worldview and how that worldview is communicated), (4) examples of literary devices used in the book, and (5) questions for class discussion.

January 27

Quiz on *A Tale of Two Cities*; Discuss *A Tale of Two Cities* & Video; Decide on groups for group presentation

Homework: Begin reading *The Horse and His Boy*

February 3

Discuss *A Tale of Two Cities*; Mock Trial Discussion

Homework: Decide on Mock Trial role; complete *The Horse and His Boy*

February 17

A Tale of Two Cities group presentation and discussion

Homework: Read *Frankenstein* and prepare for mock trial.

March 3

The Horse and His Boy quiz, presentation, and discussion.

Homework: Read *Frankenstein* and prepare for mock trial.

March 17

Frankenstein quiz, presentation, and discussion.

Homework: prepare for mock trial

March 31

Frankenstein: mock trial, opening statements, plaintiff begins presenting case

April 7

Frankenstein: plaintiff and defense present case.

April 21

Frankenstein: closing statements and discussion

April 28

Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy quiz, presentation, and discussion.

May 5

Completing the British Canon: Timeline and discussion