

## English Literature Semester 1 Overview

In Semester 1, the curriculum covers English literature and history from the Anglo-Saxon period through the Medieval period, Elizabethan period, and the Puritan Era. Course readings include Beowulf, Canterbury Tales, the Faerie Queene, Macbeth, Robinson Crusoe, and many others. Students answer homework questions about the readings on a daily basis, and also take regular quizzes and tests. Two end of quarter research papers were also assigned, on the lives of famous authors or historical figures. These papers were an average of five pages, and required a Sources page. The semester ended with a cumulative final exam.

American Literature  
Semester 1 Overview  
Mr. Kistler

In Semester 1, the curriculum covers American short stories, humorous pieces, Drama, Romantic poetry, Transcendentalist works, Fireside poets, and early colonial pieces. Works include those of Mark Twain, Washington Irving, Edgar Allan Poe, Nathaniel Hawthorne, William Bradford, Herman Melville, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Ralph Waldo Emerson, and many others. Students answer homework questions about the readings on a daily basis, and also take regular quizzes and tests. Two end of quarter research papers were also assigned on the lives of famous authors or historical figures. These papers were an average of five pages, and required a Sources page. The semester ended with a cumulative final exam.

Speech & Debate  
Semester 1 Overview  
Mr. Kistler

In Semester 1, the class read through Randy Fujishin's The Natural Speaker. The students learned the basics of the communication model and how to organize, research, and deliver a speech. Reading comprehension was evaluated by nine regular quizzes. Students were given an opportunity to practice their public speaking skills with five speeches in class. They also evaluated a professional public speaker for content, organization, and delivery, and wrote a short critique.