



The Lantern English Co.
Growing Literature

Overview of Early Literature – Part II

Course Description: An excerpt-based class, students continue a study through early historical literature including an introduction to Shakespeare (1600s), *Don Quixote* (1605), *The Pilgrim's Progress* (1678), *Robinson Crusoe* (1719), *The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin* (1791), and poems by Phillis Wheatley (1753-1784) and William Blake (1757-1827). All texts are included as part of the class; no materials are required for purchase.

Prerequisite: *Essay Basics* or equivalent experience writing five-paragraph essays.

Course Outline:

Week One: Intro to Shakespeare

- Review of the Renaissance
- Shakespeare's England
- Shakespeare's Stage
- Understanding Shakespeare's Language

Week Two: *Don Quixote*

- A Brief History of Spain & The Story
- The Value of Cervantes' Novel

Week Three: *The Pilgrim's Progress*

- More of England's History
- Allegory in Writing
- Making Connections

Week Four: *Robinson Crusoe*

- The Life of Daniel Defoe

- Confessional, Epistolary, and Realistic Fiction
- Intro to The Age of Enlightenment

Week Five: *The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin*

- A Brief Background
- More About The Age of Enlightenment

Week Six: Poems by Phillis Wheatley

- Wheatley's Historical Significance in Literature
- Why Poetry?
- How Do We Read Poetry?
- Close Reading & Rhyme Schemes

Week Seven: Poems by William Blake

- Intro to the Romantic era
- Blake's Influence in Art and Poetry
- More Poetry Analysis

Week Eight: Final Response – Five-Paragraph Essay

Grading Information: All assignments will be graded using *The Growing Writer Rubric* and averaged to receive a final course grade.