

# Course Outline: EN 2250: Introduction to British Literature

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH | FALL/WINTER 2026-2027

*Note for students: This short course outline is provided for planning purposes only. Course information is tentative and subject to change; the final course syllabus will be available by the first day of classes.*

## Course Code

AP/EN 2250 6.0A (Y) – Introduction to British Literature

Course Director: Dr. Tina Y. Choi

## Course Description

In this course we trace the history of British literature from its origins in Old English and medieval tales of murder and sexual misadventure, through an early modern culture of public performance and private devotion, to Romantic expressions of revolutionary fervor and a Victorian preoccupation with illegitimacy, criminality, and policing. We'll consider the development of multiple genres (fiction, drama, poetry, nonfiction prose) amid the changing political and social contexts within Britain, and investigate the historical emergence of contemporary discourses of race, nation, gender, and social class over the centuries.

This course provides an overview of major literary and historical themes in British writing. Students will learn to read, think, and write critically about a range of genres, develop an awareness of major trends and themes in literary history, and be introduced to representative authors from over six centuries. Their work in this course will provide a solid foundation for further literary study, including more advanced courses in British, Canadian, American, or diasporic literatures.

## Course Delivery

Delivery Mode: SEMR

Wednesdays 2:30-5:30pm

This course will be taught as a combination of lecture and discussion.

## Course Materials (tentative)

- *The Broadview Anthology of British Literature: Concise Volume A, Fourth Edition*, ed. Joseph Black et. al (Broadview, 2024)
- Austen, *Persuasion* (Oxford UP)

- Collins, *The Moonstone* (Oxford UP)
- Selvon, *Lonely Londoners* (Penguin)

## Tentative Grade Breakdown and Deadlines

Assessment	Weight	Mode	Tentative Deadline
short in-class writing exercises	15%	in class	varying dates, in class
fall-term essay	20%	assigned	10 December
winter-term essay	30%		15 March
in-class tests	20%	in class	2 December, 2 April
active, informed participation in discussions	15%	in class	N/A
	<b>100%</b>		

## Additional Information

Category:	C
Historical Requirements:	Time Period I (pre-1700) Time Period II (1700-1900)
Open To:	Yr 2,3 (EN, ENPR, CRWR students only)