**Honors Brit Lit Magazine Research Project**

**Group Sizes: 3 (preferred size) or 4. *Choose your group wisely—your grade depends on it!***

**Common Core Standards: Writing**

1. Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

2. Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective

selection, organization, and analysis of content.

4. Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

5. Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most

significant for a specific purpose and audience.

6. Use technology, including the Internet, to produce, publish, and update individual or shared writing products, taking advantage of technology’s

capacity to link to other information and to display information flexibly and dynamically.

7. Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question) or solve a problem; narrow or

broaden the inquiry when appropriate; synthesize multiple sources on the subject, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.

8. Gather relevant information from multiple authoritative print and digital sources, using advanced searches effectively; assess the usefulness of each

source in answering the research question; integrate information into the text selectively to maintain the flow of ideas, avoiding plagiarism and

following a standard format for citation.

9. Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis,

reflection, and research.

Although the focus for this project is on the writing standards, standards for reading information text, language, and listening & speaking will also be addressed.

**The Research Project:**

Your goal in Honors Brit Lit is to learn how to formulate a research question and then conduct the necessary research to answer that question in a thoughtful, well-developed, and well-supported essay that synthesizes information from multiple secondary sources. This year, instead of a 4-6 page traditional research paper, your paper will be a featured article in a magazine that you create with 2-4 additional people. Each group will work on one specific literary period. This project will include all steps of a traditional research paper, but it will also require some graphic design, insightful writing, and creative formatting; use magazines, web pages, and other media venues as models for design ideas. The content should mix some history, some literary history, literary criticism, some personal opinion, some analysis and some review. Everything else is “gravy”—you know—the extras that *WOW!* me. Be creative in the way that you “instruct” me about the movers and shakers of the literary world in your assigned period of England’s history. The finished product should use Publisher or some similar program to create a polished magazine.

**Research Paper:**

1. **Preliminary Grade (this is an individual grade in the daily category) 100 pts.**

* Minimum seven source cards (at least 3 ***must*** be print sources)
* Minimum of 25 notes/quotes (research must be balanced—do not let the majority of your notes come from

only one or two sources)

* Your research may NOT include your parallel book or *London*.
* Preliminary outline worksheet
* Expanded outline

**II. Electronic Sources & Notes Document 200 points summative category**

* Answers will be cut and pasted from your finished research paper
* You will print out your Works Cited Page

**Finished Magazine: 200 pts. x 2 in Summative Category**

* Cover
* Table of Contents/Colophon (you are a visual generation, so make certain you include images as seen in examples from the table of contents of other magazines.)
* Researched article from each group member
* Special focus article from each group member
* 4 wild card elements
* Parallel reading blurb page

**What part will I be graded on individually?**

1. **Individual Magazine Article (this is your research paper and each group member gets graded separately. Grade is based on content and writing style) 70 pts.**

* 1000-1500 words
* Citations from a minimum of 5 different sources (at least 2 must be from print sources)
* Illustrations/graphics with captions
* At least one example of directly quoted material incorporating each of the three types of lead-ins and a paraphrased and/or summarized cited passage
* No more than one block quote

Topics for research paper/article (*only one group member per topic*):

* + Religion
  + Literary icons (or one specific literary icon)
  + Wars
  + The humanities (music, art, architecture, etc.)
  + Social/cultural movements (fashion, pop culture, daily life, fairs/festivals/entertainment, etc.)
  + Politics
  + Historical icons
  + Immigration/emigration
  + Catastrophes
  + Counter-culture/rebellions/non-conformists
  + The “defining” literary work for the period

*You can come up with a topic yourself, but please discuss it with me before you begin gathering research.*

1. **Special focus article (each group member gets graded separately ) 30 pts.**

These mini-research topics do not need citations. They do need graphics/illustrations and they should be no more than a page of the magazine. Each group member should choose from the following ideas (although, if you think of something else, talk with me about it).

* Spotlight a poet or author from the period
* Spotlight an important politician
* Spotlight an important woman
* Write about a well-known cultural event
* Write about an invention from the period
* Spotlight someone who would be considered a celebrity of the time

**What grades will the group share?**

* Cover 10 pts.
* Table of Contents/Colophon 10 pts.
* Book Blurbs 10 pts.
* Visual impact/creativity 30 pts.
* Wild cards up to 0-40 pts.

**Wild Cards 40 pts.**

The final 40 points of the magazine project may be earned with wild card items. This part of the project is optional, but you must understand that groups choosing to complete only the base requirements will earn no higher than an 80% on the overall magazine. To even have a chance at an A on this major assignment, you must include the wild cards.  I will NOT give you examples, options, or suggestions for wild card features because this is your chance to show me your intelligence / creativity above and beyond the norm. When your group is brainstorming ideas, look at some real magazines to see what they include other than articles! **NOTE: Wild cards cannot include horoscopes, recipes, crossword puzzles or other word games.**

**Wild Card Stipulations**

* Up to (but no more than) 4 wild card features may be included in your magazine
* **All group members should work on multiple wild cards**. Any wild card created by one group member will earn points only for that one group member. Likewise, any group member who does not participate will not earn any of the points. This is where using the Google Drive will come in handy—you can live chat about ideas and what each person should be working on. I will check your folder from time to time just to see what is going on.
* If you choose to do advertisements, then the product must have existed during your time period and reflect historical accuracy. Additionally, four advertisements will equal one wild card.
* Earn up to 10 points for each wild card item. The highest scores of 9 and 10 will be reserved for outstanding work only!
* Points awarded based on creativity, originality, effort, and…
* **Content historical integrity**!!! This means that anything you include in your magazine must stay true to the period you have been researching. Remember that features from modern magazines can be revamped to reflect the culture and beliefs of any historical period.

*Final note about wild cards:*  when you are trying to gage how much to do for each wild card item, use the “1 page” rule. That means that each wild card should include at least “1 page” worth of work, but that does NOT mean that the work must appear on the same page of the magazine. A single wild card feature could actually be several small pieces scattered throughout the project. The idea is to make your magazine look as realistic as possible; so you decide about layout and placement.

**Book Blurbs**

One page where everyone’s parallel reading is presented with a short paragraph and graphic. For samples, check out the book review pages in magazines such as *People, Cooking Light, Southern Living, Newsweek,* etc.

**Colophon**

This is where you list your names and give any other credits needed. Magazines and yearbooks have these.

**Due Date:** March 16

**The Finished Project** If your magazine design includes color, you cannot print it in the English Writing Lab (our color printer is not working), so make other arrangements. Also, consider using a better quality paper than the standard copy paper available at Pope.