

COURSE TITLE: Honors British Literature (grade 11)

REQUIRED TEXT: *Dubliners* (select THREE short stories from the collection)

AUTHOR: James Joyce

GENRE: Short Story

SUMMARY: Joyce's *Dubliners* (published in 1914) depicts the struggles and frustrations of every day people living in Dublin in the early 1900s. Protagonists vary in maturity and circumstances (stories toward the beginning of the collection feature children, stories toward the middle feature younger adults, and the stories toward the end feature mature adults), but all try unsuccessfully to achieve fulfillment in life.

REQUIRED STUDENT RESPONSE: (DUE THE FIRST DAY OF CLASS)

1. Take notes while reading each story—either write in the margins of the book (if it is your own copy) OR fold a piece of lined paper down the center (labeling the left side “quotation” and the right side “analysis”) and write down significant quotations and their importance.

When taking notes, consider the following questions. (Focusing your notes on these topics will help you with your first quiz in September.)

- With what does the protagonist struggle? Does he/ she overcome the adversity faced? Why or why not?
- Does the protagonist grow and change throughout the story, or is he/ she static? Why or why not? Support your interpretation of the protagonist with quotations and examples from the story.
- Note color imagery—what could it symbolize within the narrative?
- Note setting—how is it used symbolically?

2. You will take a quiz analyzing one of these stories from a selected critical perspective as part of the first unit of the course.