

LOCATION / TOPIC TITLE & DESCRIPTION

- Authors** **Famous Authors: William Faulkner: 1897-1962 (30:37)** ★
Faulkner was born in New Albany, Mississippi. When he was five, his family moved to nearby Oxford which was to be his base and his inspiration for the rest of his life. He had a rather intermittent school and university education, published his first novel in 1928, and went on to build a solid reputation, receiving the Nobel Prize for literature in 1949. © 1994 United Learning
- Authors** **Famous Authors: Henrik Ibsen: 1828-1906 (38:57)** ★ ★ ★ ★
Ibsen was born into a well-to-do family in the little town of Skien in Norway. His first play was performed in Christiania, Oslo, when he was only 21, and he went on to become the most influential world class playwright since Shakespeare. © 2004 United Learning
- Authors** **Famous Authors: George Orwell: 1903-1950 (29:33)** ★ ★ ★
Orwell was educated at Eton College and later went to Burma as a police officer. He returned to England, determined to be a writer. He later worked for the BBC and The Observer. Just as he was becoming successful, he died of tuberculosis. © 1995 United Learning
- Authors** **Famous Authors: Edgar Allan Poe: 1809-1849 (30:02)** ★ ★
Edgar Allan Poe was born in Boston, the son of actors David and Elizabeth Poe. His father disappeared when he was three and his mother died a year later. He was determined to be a writer, and though beset by many difficulties, he succeeded in becoming one of the first great imaginative writers in the United States. © 1995 United Learning
- Authors** **Famous Authors: John Steinbeck: 1902-1968 (29:40)** ★
John Steinbeck was born in Salinas, California, in 1902. He studied literature at Stanford University. His first novel was published when he was 27 and he was awarded the Nobel Prize for literature in 1962. © 1994 United Learning
- Authors** **Discovering History: 20th-Century Biographies: Composers and Writers (30:00)** ★ ★ ★
Introduce students to some of the most creative and beloved individuals of the 20th century. Segments profile a range of writers and composers, including George M. Cohan, Irving Berlin, and Will Rogers. © 2005 Discovery Channel School
- Great Books** **Great Books : All Quiet on the Western Front (23:07)** ★ ★ ★ ★
Erich Maria Remarque's novel, based on his own experiences, embodies the optimism lost during World War I. Explore the changes experienced by the main character, Paul Baumer, an 18-year-old German soldier who plans to be a combat hero. Examine why his story holds as an enduring antiwar novel. © 2004 Discovery Channel School
- Great Books** **Great Books : All Quiet on the Western Front (26:00)** ★ ★ ★ ★
Called the greatest antiwar novel ever written, Erich Maria Remarque's story makes us question if war itself isn't the enemy of man. What can you learn about issues of power and struggle through Paul's eyes? Can you rationalize the dehumanizing costs of war? © 2000 Discovery Channel School

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Great Books

Great Books: Catch-22 (27:00) ★★

Interviews with the author, dramatizations of the plot, and comments from World War II veterans reveal the turbulent times that sparked Joseph Heller's creative genius when writing this great antiwar novel. © 1997 Discovery Channel School

Great Books

Great Books: The Grapes of Wrath (27:00) ★★★★★

Follow the Joad family's Great Depression journey from their Oklahoma farm to the land of milk and honey—California. On the way, Ma Joad struggles to keep the family together as they meet with violent rejection, betrayal, death of loved ones, degradation, loss of hope, and an ever-deepening sense of utter vulnerability. © 2001 Discovery Channel School

Great Books

Great Books: The Great Gatsby (27:00) ★★★★★

The most widely read and widely translated American novel of this century, "The Great Gatsby" explores the uniquely American possibilities that allow individuals to remake themselves. Re-enactment footage intercut with scenes from the 1974 film "Gatsby," interviews with experts, and dramatic narrative work to unlock the complexity of this novel's characters. © 1997 Discovery Channel School

Great Books

Great Books: Heart of Darkness (27:00) ★★★★★

Embark on a journey through Joseph Conrad's 19th-century Belgian Congo. Students travel through Conrad's very personal story of European occupation of this African nation. Who were these colonials harvesting gold, ivory, and diamonds at the expense of five million Africans? How were these foreigners able to bring moral decay and primeval savagery to the Congo? © 2000 Discovery Channel School

Great Books

Great Books: Kafka's Metamorphosis (27:00) ★★★★★★

What if you woke to find yourself transformed into a giant bug? When a mild-mannered salesman turns into an insect overnight, his family reacts with dismay, recrimination, and ultimately, murder. Gregor Samsa, Kafka's protagonist, finds that alienation, family dysfunction, paranoia, and bureaucracy define life. © 2003 Discovery Channel School

Great Books

Great Books: 1984 (27:00) ★★★★★

Big Brother. George Orwell gave us a new synonym for oppression in his bleak post-WWII novel. Follow Winston Smith and Julia as they hide from the Thought Police and end up in infamous "Room 101." Orwell's novel resonates as a warning against thought control long after the timeliness of the book's title. © 2001 Discovery Channel School

Great Books

Great Books : One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest (27:00) ★★★★★

A life-affirming hero and the authoritarian, mechanical forces trying to control him clash. Follow along as author and 1960's counterculture guru Ken Kesey reads dramatic sequences, bringing such inimitable characters as Randall P. McMurphy and Nurse Ratched to life. © 1999 Discovery Channel School

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Great Books

Great Books: The Origin of Species (51:00) ★ ★ ★

Darwin's theory of natural selection has provoked acclaim and debate since it was detailed in his Origin of Species in 1859. Explore the book that revolutionized science and culture. The program examines evolutionary theory from its beginnings with Jean Baptiste Lamarck, the famous Scopes Monkey trial, and how political leaders such as Adolf Hitler have twisted Darwinian theory and used it for their own purposes. © 1994 Discovery Channel School

Great Books

Great Books: Pride and Prejudice (27:00) ★ ★ ★ ★

The perfidious nature of first impressions is at the heart of this Jane Austen classic. The complicated love story of Elizabeth and Darcy, caught in the matchmaking machinations of Elizabeth's mother, paints a brilliant tableau of middle-class English life while exploring the universal themes of love, marriage, and social expectations. © 2000 Discovery Channel School

Great Books

Great Books: The Red Badge of Courage (27:00) ★ ★ ★ ★

A century ago, a 22-year-old named Stephen Crane wrote one of the greatest books ever about the Civil War. This video examines the mind of Crane, and analyzes the classic tale of a young man in the midst of a horrifying, bloody conflict. By bringing to light the fears young people have when moving out into a cold world, Crane's story is able to touch each new generation. Produced by Discovery Channel School. © 1999 Discovery Channel School

Shakespeare

Famous Authors: William Shakespeare: 1564-1616 (34:56) ★ ★ ★

Shakespeare was born in the country town of Stratford-Upon-Avon. He went to London in 1588 to begin a life in the theatre. He was immensely successful and is now recognized as the greatest dramatist of all time. © 1995 United Learning

Shakespeare

Macbeth: Program 1 (15:34) ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Macbeth, Thane of Glamis, is one of King Duncan's greatest generals. Returning from a battle with the rebellious Thane of Cawdor, Macbeth and Banquo encounter three witches who bestow a prophecy on them: Macbeth will be Thane of Cawdor, and King, while Banquo will be father of future kings. When Lady Macbeth is informed of these events, she decides to have the king murdered. © 2001 Channel 4

Shakespeare

Macbeth: Program 2 (16:54) ★ ★ ★

Macbeth is reluctant to kill Duncan, but Lady Macbeth convinces him and they plot the king's murder. When the body is discovered, Macbeth kills the guards in order to silence them. Fearful for their lives, Duncan's sons leave Scotland. © 2001 Channel 4

Shakespeare

Macbeth: Program 3 (18:00) no ratings yet

Macbeth is crowned King of Scotland. Banquo has suspicions based on the encounter with the witches. Macbeth knows of them and is also wary of the prophecy concerning Banquo's offspring. Macbeth has Banquo murdered, but Fleance escapes. © 2001 Channel 4

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- Shakespeare** **Macbeth: Program 4 (16:23)** ★ ★ ★
Macbeth is given further prophecies by the witches. Macduff has fled to England because he suspects Macbeth and Macbeth orders the murder of Macduff's family. Macduff grieves and joins with Malcolm in England to raise an army against Macbeth. © 2001 Channel 4
- Shakespeare** **Macbeth: Program 5 (17:26)** ★ ★ ★ ★
Lady Macbeth has gone insane and dies. A messenger brings news that Malcolm's army is approaching under the cover of branches cut from trees of Birnam Wood. Macbeth meets Macduff, who reveals that he was delivered by a caesarian section; Macduff kills Macbeth, and Malcolm is crowned King of Scotland. © 2001 Channel 4
- Shakespeare** **Othello: New Perspectives (29:11)** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Shakespearean authorities Alan Students learn Shakespeare can be interpreted in different ways by directors and actors. This in-depth exploration of the motivations and history of Othello and his supporting characters delves into the relationship between Iago, Othello, and Desdemona, explains three ways Iago's character can be viewed, offers an informed account of the nature of Othello's tragedy, and interprets Othello's character in a range of ways. Invigorating media support for Arts and Humanities, Language Arts, and World History units on literature, drama, and the significant works of major playwrights, the characteristics of major types of drama, the relationship between various eras and cultures and the literature and drama produced in those environments, universal themes prevalent in literature of all cultures, the subtleties of literary devices in communication of meaning, analysis of theatrical performances from the perspective of current events and issues, cultural developments in Europe during the Renaissance, and the diffusion of popular culture. © 2000 AIMS Multimedia
- Shakespeare** **Shakespeare, Module 1: Intro to Shakespeare (26:00)** ★ ★ ★
All the world's a stage! Shakespeare has been called the greatest writer of the English language, but who was Shakespeare? What kind of a world did he live in? Why is he so great? The Standard Deviants have the answers. Get ready for an inside look at Shakespeare's life and times, his use of language, and the nitty-gritty of Elizabethan drama. © 2001 Standard Deviants
- Shakespeare** **Shakespeare, Module 2: What is Tragedy? (26:00)** ★ ★ ★
Get your carton of ice cream ready and keep a box of tissues close at hand, because you're about to explore every aspect of tragedy. Tragedy as a dramatic art, that is. You'll explore a classic tragedy, Oedipus Rex, as well as tragedy in the Middle Ages and Mr. Bill Shakespeare's take on tragedy. © 2001 Standard Deviants
- Shakespeare** **Shakespeare, Module 3: Titus Andronicus (26:00)** ★ ★ ★
The Standard Deviants begin at the beginning—Shakespeare's first tragedy, Titus Andronicus. This revenge play is knee-deep in blood and bile. Titus Andronicus may not be as good as other Shakespeare plays, but it's great at showing what tragedy was like in his day, and at showing his development as a tragedian. © 2001 Standard Deviants

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- Shakespeare** **Shakespeare, Module 4: Romeo and Juliet (26:00)** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
It's time to meet those star-crossed lovers, Romeo and Juliet. Romeo and Juliet is one of Shakespeare's most popular plays, performed again and again thanks to the plot, the poetry, and the people. © 2001 Standard Deviants
- Shakespeare** **Shakespeare, Module 5: Hamlet Basics (26:00)** ★ ★ ★ ★
To be or not to be, that is the question. Fortunately, the Standard Deviants have the answer. It's an all-star review of that troubled prince of Denmark, Hamlet. Hamlet is one of the most popular plays of all time. Why? Mystery! Murder! Madness! Mayhem! Plays within plays! And some of the most famous lines in all of English theater. © 2001 Standard Deviants
- Shakespeare** **Shakespeare, Module 6: Hamlet Themes (26:00)** ★ ★
Something may be rotten in the state of Denmark—but everything is a-okay with the Standard Deviants as they explore William Shakespeare's monumental marvel, Hamlet. What a piece of work is Hamlet—how noble in reason, how infinite in faculties—you get the picture. © 2001 Standard Deviants
- Shakespeare** **Shakespeare, Module 7: Othello Basics (26:00)** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
The Standard Deviants fight the green-eyed monster to the death, in a preliminary discussion of Shakespeare's Othello. It's a rough-and-ready ride through the plot of the play and a look at some of the most intriguing characters—from the jealous to the dastardly. There's true love, intrigue, and death. We're talking tragedy with a capital T. © 2001 Standard Deviants
- Shakespeare** **Shakespeare, Module 8: Othello as a Tragedy (26:00)** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
It's "Othello: Behind the Scenes." Get ready for intriguing in-depth insights into Iago, daring diatribes on that delightful do-gooder Desdemona, and overwhelming on-the-money observations of Othello. The Standard Deviants sink deep into the psyches of several super scene-stealers. © 2001 Standard Deviants
- Shakespeare** **Shakespeare, Module 9: Macbeth Basics (26:00)** ★ ★ ★ ★
It's the Macdaddy of macabre murder mysteries—Macbeth. You want blood—you got it! You want conniving conspiracies—Done! You want spooky witches? No problem! Plus dripping daggers, perambulating plants, and lots of off-kilter kills. It's creepy, it's crawly, it's the Scottish play on words, and that's no lie. © 2001 Standard Deviants
- Shakespeare** **Shakespeare, Module 10: The Characters of Macbeth (26:00)** ★ ★ ★ ★
It's kings, killings, and kilts. Kilts? That's right, the Standard Deviants continue their discussion of William Shakespeare's Macbeth. They explore the ambitious title character himself, Macbeth! His conniving wife, Lady Macbeth! There's the betrayed friend Banquo! And of course, those three hateful hags, the witches! © 2001 Standard Deviants

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- Shakespeare** **Shakespeare, Module 11: King Lear Basics (26:00)** ★ ★ ★ ★
Start to cheer and have no fear, because you'll hear the tale of King Lear. It may even bring a tear to your eye, as the Standard Deviants fly into the lies, spies, and family ties of one Shakespeare's most important tragedy. You'll learn the plot and whatnot, meet the king and other things, and greet the amazing feats of Lear and his buddies. © 2001 Standard Deviants
- Shakespeare** **Shakespeare, Module 12: Approaches to King Lear (26:00)** ★ ★ ★
Get ready to get Shakespeare, courtesy of the Standard Deviants' in-depth dose of Shakespeare's King Lear. They'll examine important scenes and characters and see what makes this tragedy so great, including scheming sisters, steadfast servants, and spectacular storms. © 2001 Standard Deviants
- Shakespeare** **Twelfth Night (1:42:30)** ★
This production enacts Twelfth Night, a comedy by William Shakespeare. © 2002 Channel 4
- Shakespeare** **Understanding Shakespeare: Shakespearean Comedy (32:52)** ★ ★
Alan Dilnot and Susan Tweg, two Shakespearean authorities, explore complexities of Shakespeare's plays in easy-to-understand, terms, aided by student actors' dramatizations. Students learn Shakespeare can be interpreted in different ways by directors and actors. This program explores comic traditions and language via the comedies Much Ado about Nothing and The Tempest. Students recognize classic conventions of comedy, become aware of how language and wordplay are used, and understand the darker sides of Shakespeare's comedies. Engaging media support for Arts and Humanities, Language Arts, and World History units on literature, drama, significant works of major playwrights; characteristics of major types of drama; the relationship between various eras and cultures and the literature and drama produced in those environments; universal themes prevalent in literature of all cultures; subtleties of literary devices in communication of meaning; analysis of theatrical performances from perspective of current events and issues; cultural developments in Europe during the Renaissance; the diffusion of popular culture. © 2000 AIMS Multimedia