American Literature and Composition 2017-2018 Syllabus



 



**Course Description**

American Literature is developed around the Georgia Standards of Excellence to challenge students to develop their critical language skills. Through reading, writing, speaking, and listening; students will explore the intricate components of American Literature’s development, craftsmanship, genres, and other various nuances of American Literature and its relationship to World Literature. Students will explore a gamut of American literary periods that stretch from pre-European Native American oral storytelling tradition into 21st century literature.

The course is comprised of four thematic units, and each thematic unit will focus on one extended text and multiple genres of short readings both literary and informational. Each unit will also focus on critical reading, writing, and thinking skills.

**Tentative Course Outline:**

I. **First Nine Weeks:**

1. A. Native American
   * Origin myth
     + Extended Student Writing - Narrative
     + Teach the grammar in context using the sentence patterns

B. Colonial

* + Puritan
  + Age of reason
  + Pamphlet
  + Sermon
  + Puritan
    - Extended text : *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller

II. **Second Nine Weeks:**

1. Romanticism
   * Transcendentalism
   * Dark Romantics
   * Fireside poets
     + Extended text : *The Great Gatsby*by F. Scott Fitzgerald

III. **Third Nine Weeks:**

1. Realism
   * Slave narrative

B. Naturalism

* Extended text : *A Lesson Before Dying* by Ernest Gaines

IV. **Fourth Nine Weeks:**

1. Modernism
   * Harlem Renaissance
   * Magic Realism
   * Postmodernism
     + Extended text : *The Glass Castle*  by Jeannette Walls

**Materials and Electronic Resources:**

1. *Literature: Glencoe American Literature textbook* **If lost or damaged, the replacement cost will be approximately $45.00**
2. Other reading resources which may be electronic
3. Turnitin.com-
4. **Google Classroom (a web-based resource) will be used as a part of instruction. Students will receive and submit assignments by way of the Google Classroom.**

**The student provides:**

1. A three ring binder 2-3 inches

2. Tabbed dividers

3. Loose-leaf paper

4. At least 2 black/blue ink pens

5. At least two # 2 pencils

6. Composition book

7. Sticky Notes

8. Colorful pens and highlighters

9. Kleenex

**Expectations:**

* **ALL STUDENTS** to give **100 %** effort.
* **Be in your seat and ready to work before the tardy bell stops ringing.**
* **Bring all necessary materials to class each day. You will not be allowed to leave the room to retrieve any materials that have been left behind.**
* **Raise your hand when you have something to ask or say.**
* **Show respect for classmates, teacher, school property, and yourself.**

**CONSEQUENCES**:

***1. Warning***

***2. Call to parent(s)/guardian***

***3. Detention & parent contact***

***4. Referral***

**Make-up work:**

1. If you are absent, it is **YOUR** responsibility to make-up **ALL** work that you

missed. You will have 5 class days to make-up missed work after being absent. Refer to the late work policy below.

1. Please see me **BEFORE SCHOOL OR AFTER SCHOOL** about make up work. **Make up work will not be discussed during your class period** or any other time except for the designated times mentioned previously.

3. It is **YOUR responsibility** to contact the teacher to set up a time to make-up work

(such as tests that need teacher assistance) either before or after school, NOT during class time. Work NOT made up will be assigned a grade of zero. Refer to the late work policy below.

4. If you are absent any day before a test or quiz, you are expected to take the test

or quiz on the day it is given because you would have already been aware of

of the date and would have had ample time to prepare.

5. If work is assigned before you are absent (tests, quizzes, homework, etc.), you

must turn in the work on the FIRST day of your return to school unless other arrangements have been made.

**Late Work Policy: ( AT THE DISCRETION OF THE TEACHER)**

Students will be allowed to **make up test and quizzes only after** the 5 day grace period with the understanding that late penalties will be applied as follows:

* 5 days after absence - NO PENALTY
* 6 days after absence - MAXIMUM GRADE THAT MAY BE EARNED IS AN 80
* 7 days after absence - MAXIMUM GRADE THAT MAY BE EARNED IS AN 70
* 8 or more days after absence - MAXIMUM GRADE THAT MAY BE EARNED IS A 60

At the discretion of the teacher, students will be given the opportunity to retest under the following conditions:

* One of the following from a parent acknowledging their awareness of the failing grade and the conditions of the retest:
  + - Email
    - Parent Note
    - Phone Call
* Make test corrections or equivalent remediation assignment
* Retest MUST be done AFTER SCHOOL

**Grading System for TCCHS English Department:**

**40% test grades** - unit tests, final drafts, major projects, research papers, etc.

**30% quiz grades** - vocabulary quizzes, reading content quizzes, rough drafts, etc.

**20% daily grades** - class work, homework, reading checks, summaries, etc.

**10% Benchmark test**

* **GEORGIA MILESTONES END OF COURSE TEST (EOC) – 20% OF FINAL GRADE**

**\* When graded assignments are returned, you may set up an individual conference with me for an in-depth discussion of the grade(s). Class time will NOT be used for discussion and analysis of individual scores.**

**Notes:**

Please see me with any problem, concern or comment. I am available for help after school **with prior notice.**