



COURSE TITLE: American Literature and Composition
2ND BLOCK

COURSE NUMBER: 23.0510000 & 23.0510018

Semester/Year: 2020-2021

Instructor: Ms. Russell

Class Location: 45bw3vc

Class Meets at: Monday - Thursday 10:15 - 11:30

Tutorial Day and Time: Monday - Thursday 2:45 - 3:15

Telephone: Please make an appointment for a virtual conversation if necessary.

E-mail: rashida.russell@clayton.k12.ga.us

Teacher's Website: <https://003.clayton.k12.ga.us/cms/One.aspx?portalId=66180&pageId=15456857>

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Instruction in American Literature and Composition addresses students' increasing maturity and the growing sophistication of their abilities. Students should be able to comprehend more challenging books and articles, basing all of their analyses, inferences, and claims on explicit and relevant evidence from the texts. Students will expand on their ability to identify central ideas by identifying how those themes are shaped and conveyed by particular details. Their analysis of basic literary elements will extend to identifying connections and complexities within narratives and how individual elements weave together to advance plot and reveal character. The evaluation of the impact of language on tone and meaning will begin to include more sophisticated concepts such as analogy and allusion, subtleties in point of view such as dramatic irony, and a more sophisticated appreciation for connotative diction. These skills will be incorporated into the students' own narrative, informational, and argumentative writing. Students will become increasingly adept at understanding an author's biases, the use of complex rhetorical devices including logical fallacies, and tailoring his or her own prose for maximum influence. In addition, the American Lit. & Comp curriculum embraces the three major shifts of the Georgia Standards of Excellence:

1. Complexity: The standards require regular practice with complex text and its academic language.
2. Evidence: The standards emphasize reading and writing grounded in evidence from text, both literary and informational,
3. Knowledge: The standards require building knowledge through content rich non-fiction.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

The learning outcomes are derived directly from selected daily assignments, tests, quizzes, writing assignments, projects, and exams.

TEXTS, READINGS, AND INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES

Required Text: Collections- Houghton Mifflin Harcourt (HMH)

Supplemental Texts: TBD

Selected Readings: Excerpt from “Of Plymouth Plantation”

- [“Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God”](#)
- “The Federalist No. 10”
- “The Declaration of Independence”
- “To the Right Honourable William Earl of Dartmouth”
- “On Being Brought from Africa to America”
- “On the Emigration to America and Peopling the Western Country”
- “I Hear America Singing”
- Excerpt from “Nature”
- Excerpt from “Self-Reliance”
- “The Minister’s Black Veil”

Useful Websites:

ACTIVITIES AND ASSESSMENTS, EVALUATION PROCEDURES, AND GRADING

Activities and Assessments:

All major activities (projects, research papers, portfolios, etc.) are listed here and in the calendar. Specify expectations for synchronous and asynchronous online classroom activities.

Evaluation Procedures:

High School and High School Credit Bearing Courses Grade Weights			
Courses with an End-of-Course (EOC) Exam		Courses without an End-of-Course (EOC) Exam	
Classwork	25%	Classwork	25%
Tests/Quizzes	30%	Tests/Quizzes	30%
Projects	10%	Projects	10%
Homework	15%	Homework	15%
End-of-Course Exam	20%	Final Exam	20%

Grading Policy:

Letter Grade	Performance Level	Description of Performance Level
A	90-100	Exceeding content expectations
B	80-89	Meeting content expectations
C	71-79	Working towards meeting content expectations
D	70	Inadequate progress towards meeting content expectations
F	69 and below	Did not meet content expectations
NC	No Credit	Enrolled 10 days or less
I	Incomplete	Course requirements not completed

Class Policies:

Google Classroom Code: 45bw3vc

Wear appropriate clothes - Wear tops and bottoms. No cleavage or stomach exposed.

Always show yourself live - No bitmojis, emojis or images, etc.

Arrive on time and stay present to avoid absences and parental notification.

Limit distractions, including people or offensive images/music/conversations in your background.

Mute your microphone unless it is your turn to speak.

Give your virtual classroom your full attention.

Speak clearly and use good manners.

Homework policy:

Complete all homework assignments when they are due. A -20 will be taken from the grade earned on the 1st day the assignment is late. If an assignment is more than 1 day late, a zero will be given. Thereafter, an alternate assignment will be given. It will also have a -20 late penalty.

MAKE-UP WORK POLICY:

All students are provided an opportunity to make up missed assignments, regardless of the reason for the absences. It is the student and parent's responsibility to make arrangements and/or complete all work within three school days of the student's return to school. Students will present the make-up work to the teacher for grading. Grading for the make-up work should be shared with the student within a reasonable period, i.e. 3-5 days. It is the parent and student's responsibility, as appropriate, to initiate the make-up work for missed assignments, tests, and class work. Students must assume responsibility for obtaining the required information and making whatever arrangements are necessary with the teacher. Parents should assist their child with requests for make-up work and other missed assignments and tests.

When a student is absent because of a legal reason as defined by Georgia law or when the absence is apparently beyond the control of the student, the student shall be given an opportunity to earn grade(s) for those days absent without penalty if the work is completed within 3 days of the student's return. Assignments receive an automatic -20 from the score earned if they are completed after the 3-day grace period. If the assignment remains undone for 7 days after a student returns, a grade of zero (0) will be given. Thereafter, an alternate assignment will be given. It will also have a -20 late penalty.

Students may arrange times with the teacher for making up work for the mutual convenience of student and teacher. Make-up of tests/quizzes should be done before or after school except otherwise arranged by the teacher. Teachers may assign different work or a different test than that which was originally assigned to other students. It is critical that parents remain involved in this process to ensure academic success for the student. Long-term assignments with preset dates are due on the assigned dates, regardless of a student's previous absence.

Parent-Teacher Conferences:

Parents can contact the student's grade level counselor to schedule a parent-teacher conference.

9th Grade: Ms. Corell and Mr. Williams

10th Grade: Ms. White

11th Grade: Ms. Jenkins

12th Grade: Dr. Pope

Infinite Campus Access:

Parents can access their student’s grades and attendance online via Infinite Campus Parent Portal. Please see the parent liaison, Mr. Clifton at extension 503137 to obtain their username and password.

Grade Reporting:

Progress reports are issued every four and one-half weeks within each nine week grading period. Report cards are issued every eighteen weeks at the high school level. Report card grades will include both letter and numeric grades for all students.

Progress Report Dates:

Semester One:	September 3	October 13	November 16	January 6
Semester Two:	February 9	March 16	April 26	May 28

CLASS OUTLINE/CALENDAR (Tentative)

Week #	Major assignments (i.e. research papers, projects, portfolios)	Due Date	Readings for class Additional assignments, etc.
Week 1			Readings: Assignment:
Week 2			
Week 3			
Week 4			
Week 5			
Week 6			
Week 7			
Week 8			
Week 9			
Week 10			
Week 11			
Week 12			
Week 13			
Week 14			
Week 15			
Week 16			
Week 17			
Week 18			

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students are expected to submit work for evaluation that has been completed solely by that student, unless group assignments have been so designated. Academic integrity is expected at all times. If a student is found cheating on a graded assignment, the student will not receive credit for that assignment and will face possible disciplinary action. Cheating and plagiarism are considered very serious academic offenses. Any student who plagiarizes or cheats on an assignment and/or test should be referred to the administrator.

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*Any changes to this document must have approval from an Administrator.