American Literature Syllabus
HCS School Year: July 31, 2017 – May 25, 2018

INSTRUCTOR: Mrs. Valissa McKennie
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Impact Academy Webpage: https://schoolwires.henry.k12.ga.us/IA

Edgenuity Login: https://sislogin.edgenuity.com/

Course Overview:

In American Literature (regular and honors), students are consolidating and internalizing the core skills of the Georgia Standards of Excellence as they near the end of their high school careers, fulfilling the vision of a college- and career-ready individual with strong twenty-first century literacy skills and the ability to think critically. They undertake close, attentive reading of complex works of literature and informational texts, and are able to navigate confidently through significant amounts of information in a variety of formats. Emphasis is on reading comprehension, study skills, and techniques for strengthening writing skills. Honors American Literature includes advanced reading and writing tasks.

Georgia Standards of Excellence Graduation Competencies:

Graduation Competency 1: Read closely to analyze and evaluate all forms of (i.e. complex literary and informational) texts.

Graduation Competency 2: Constructs task-appropriate writing for diverse purposes and audiences.

Graduation Competency 3: Design and implement concise and sustained research tasks focused by questions and understandings of rigorous and relevant topics.

Graduation Competency 4: Collaborate and communicate effectively in a range of discussions, responding appropriately to diverse perspectives.

Graduation Competency 5: Communicate information, reasoning, and supporting evidence that conveys a clear and distinct perspective,

Graduation Competency 6: Employ the components of language (including conventions and word choice) effectively in written or spoken form.

Student Expectations:

1. **Completing Course Work:**

   a. Students must actively participate in their literature course every school day for at least one hour per day and complete 5-7 course items daily. This is a suggested time; many students may need to work longer, particularly if they have fallen behind the expected target percentage.

   b. Students must be proctored for all tests in the course; when you reach a test, the system will not allow you to move past the test without the teacher's assistance. Proctored tests can done in person at Study Café or in an ELA webinar. The schedule for Study Café proctoring is Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday from 9-11:30am and 1-3:30pm. A webinar schedule with links will be sent to you.

   c. Students must communicate with their instructor when they have failed an assessment (quiz, test, writing assignment or project) in order to schedule a time for remediation. You can call, text or email your instructor in the Edgenuity SIS Messages section as means of contact.

   d. Student must check his or her Edgenuity SIS Messages at least two or three times a day. Important information regarding your course and grades will be sent to you through the SIS and it is your responsibility to check this communication.

   e. All students who are passing and on track are expected to attend Study Cafe at least once per month. If student is unable to attend Study Cafe, he/she can schedule a webinar during the teacher's office hours.   Students who are not passing, or have fallen behind the expected target percentage, must attend Study Cafe at least three times per month. Again, if a student cannot attend cafe, he/she must schedule a webinar with the instructor using Google Voice or Edgenuity SIS Messages.

   Course Pacing Guide: To assist students with completing coursework on time, Edgenuity provides a customized pacing guide called an "Assignment Calendar" which you can access in the Course Lobby. Simply click on "Organizer" in the right hand corner of the screen, then "Reports", and finally "Assignment Calendar." Using the drop down box, select the course, then the appropriate week, and Edgenuity will indicate what you should complete to progress. Although it is not printable directly from the system, you can copy and paste the Assignment Calendar into Word to create a calendar for yourself to follow each week.

2. **Academic Honesty and Plagiarism Policy:**

   a. All students are expected to do his or her own work. To ensure that each student is completing his or her own work, students will be asked to come to Impact at least twice per course to have an assessment proctored by their instructor.

    b.   Students are expected to always submit their own work. Plagiarizing from the Internet, or any other source, violates the Student Code of Ethics and Honesty Policy as stated in the Henry County Student Handbook. In addition, if a student submits the work of another student's, sibling, or friend, this too is a violation of this policy. When a student is caught plagiarizing or submitting another's work, the following steps are taken:

        i.   1st Violation: Student receives a 0 on the assessment without the option to redo or revise the assignment.

        ii.   2nd Violation: Student will receive a 0 on the assessment, and a parent conference will be scheduled with administrator and teacher. Student may also receive a discipline referral.

        iii.   3rd Violation: In addition to the steps in (B) student will also be recommended to be removed from Impact Academy's program and returned to his/her home school.

3. **Note-Taking:**

    a.   Each unit includes several videos that provide the direct instruction necessary to understand the content and complete the assignments. It is expected that all students will take notes during these instructional videos. These notes can be handwritten or typed in eNotes or on Word.

    b.   Notes are necessary for two important reasons:

        1.   Research shows that actively taking notes on information learned stimulates the ability to retain and reuse it when needed such as on an assignment, quiz, test or exam.

        2.   Students have only one attempt on all quizzes and tests. If a student's wishes to receive an additional attempt, he/she must provide their teacher with the notes for that section and/or unit. These can be sent via text or district email only; SIS Messages will not do attachments. Students will not receive an additional attempt if notes are not shown.

Grading Policy: For American Literature, there is no internal exam; therefore your Edgenuity Actual Grade only represents the coursework. The coursework will account as 80% of your course final average in Infinite Campus. About a month before your course ends, you will take the GA Milestones End of Course Assessment. This assessment counts as 20% of your course final average. The course final average will be calculated and posted in Infinite Campus. If you do not take the EOC, your course and EOC will be marked as Incomplete (I) in Infinite Campus until I receive an EOC score.

Assignments	20%
Quizzes	25%
Tests	30%
Projects	10%
Essays	15%

A Few Grading Tips for Edgenuity...

➔ Edgenuity automatically grades your quizzes and tests, and these scores are reported immediately after they are taken. Writing assignments and projects are graded by the instructor and can take more time to receive feedback and scores. Online content assignments focus on the use of keywords and terms in your answers you type; use the language of the lectures and reading materials to score well.

➔ If you are behind the target percentage of completion, all of the work in between where you are and where you should be is automatically being calculated by the system as a 0. Close the gap to improve your grade.

➔ Always review the feedback and comments in regards to writing assignments and projects. I will provide suggestions as to how you can revise your work to receive a higher grade.

➔ Your ACTUAL GRADE (AG) is reported to Infinite Campus during Grade Postings. The Overall Grade (OG) only represents how you have done on the work you have completed so far. If the AG is lower than the OG, increase your work productivity to close the gap between your percentage complete and the target.