

Course Name	American Literature	Course Code	TBA
School Name	Arabia Mountain High School	Teacher Name	Mrs. Hamilton
School Phone Number	678-875-3602	Teacher Email	alicia_r_hamilton@dekalbschoolsga.org Hamilton.r.arabiamountain@gmail.com
School Website	http://www.arabiamtnhs.dekalb.k12.ga.us/	Teacher Website	http://arabiamtnhs.dekalb.k12.ga.us/AliciaHamilton.aspx www.hamiltonunique.com

Course Description

This survey course of American literature is designed for students reading on grade level. It begins with the Colonial Period and moves through the Rise of Realism, the Civil War, the post war periods, and the 1900s to contemporary writings; units within the time periods are thematically arranged. Attention is given to major literary trends such as Puritanism, Nationalism, Regionalism, Transcendentalism, Imagism, Modernism, and Cultural Inclusion as well as to major American authors and significant historical periods. Literary forms covered include the short story, novel, poetry, drama, and nonfiction. Students are given the opportunity to improve grammar and usage skills. Emphasis is placed on the development of critical and analytical thinking skills through classroom discussion and compositions. The completion of a research project is required during the term. At least three outside readings and the study of vocabulary are required in this course. Students are asked to think and to write critically and analytically. They are asked to relate literary content to historical events, apply the use of literary terminology, and discuss basic concepts presented in the literature. The course will emphasize skills needed to improve and enhance performance on the GHS GT, the SAT, the ACT, and the Georgia End-of-Course Test in American Literature.

Curriculum Overview

The following academic concepts will be covered. **THIS IS ONLY A GUIDE AND IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.**

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW	
Unit – 1—“A Nation is Born”	with focus on Native American Myths, Puritanism, Colonialism
Unit – 2—The Individual and Society: Exploring New Frontier”	with focus on Romanticism, Transcendentalism, Gothicism, Poetry
Unit – 3—“A Nation Young Yet Emerging”	focus on Realism, Naturalism and Regionalism
Unit – 4—“Embracing Diversity while fighting Adversity”	focus on Modernism and Contemporary

BOARD-APPROVED INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

Title	Prentice Hall: The American Experience
ISBN	0131317199
Replacement Cost	Around \$65
Online book and/or resources	Pearsonsuccessnet.com
Online student access code (school specific)	TBA by class

GRADING SYSTEM: The DeKalb County School District believes that the most important assessment of student learning shall be conducted by the teachers as they observe and evaluate students in the context of ongoing classroom instruction. A variety of approaches, methodologies, and resources shall be used to deliver educational services and to maximize each student’s opportunity to succeed. Teachers shall evaluate student progress, report grades that represent the student’s academic achievement, and communicate official academic progress to students and parents in a timely manner through the electronic grading portal. **See Board Policy IHA.**

GRADING CATEGORIES	*GRADE PROTOCOL
Prior to Learning and Assessments of Learning – 0% <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal Pre-Assessments Engaging performance scenarios (standards-based scoring rubric 4-3-2-1) Formal Post Assessments (Illuminate) 	A 90 – 100 ~P (pass) B 80 – 89 ~F (fail) C 71 – 79 D 70 F Below 70
Assessment During Learning – 25% <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Warm-ups/sponges Closing Materials Daily Classroom discussions Quiz Projects 	
Guided, Independent, or Group Practice – 45% <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Class work Homework Labs Notebook Checks Minor projects/performance 	
Assessment of Learning– 30% <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Culminating Project/Performance EIC Project Final/Culminating Exam 	
EOC GA Milestone Test 20%	

Notes:

*English Learners (ELs) must not receive numerical or letter grades for the core content areas in elementary and middle school during their first year of language development. A grade of CS or CU must be assigned. This rule may be extended beyond the first year with approval from the EL Studies Program. English Learners must receive a grade for ESOL courses.

Late Assignment Policy:

Projects/Labs/Homework

Students will have 3 opportunities to submit late homework assignments.

Students who fail to submit their homework assignment(s) on the designated date by the individual instructor will receive a point deduction as follows out of a possible maximum of 100.

Late Day 1 11 points 89 is the total possible points a student may earn

Late Day 2 20 points 80 is the total possible points a student may earn

Late Day 3 25 points 75 is the total possible points a student may earn

The late assignment policy does not apply to assignments with more than three days completion deadline.

****Students will be issued a "Pink Slip" for every assignment turned in late. Students will also be issued a "Blue Sleep Slip" and a "Pink Slip" for students who decide to sleep in class and miss any given information or assignments. (See teacher consequences for multiple offenses)***

Cheating/Plagiarism Policy

DO NOT CHEAT: If you study, do your homework, and attend tutorials, you will be successful. If you feel overwhelmed, see me for help, but do not cheat. Plagiarism or any form of academic dishonesty is grounds for a non-negotiable zero on any assignment, test or project. Students should not share answers on any assignment, test, or project unless they are directly instructed to do so.

- **Plagiarism = stealing words or ideas without attribution.**
- **Plagiarism includes paraphrasing another essay.**

Academic Dishonesty:

Cheating on a test, quiz, or assignment is considered to be a serious breach of conduct. In order to acclimate students to existing stringent standardized testing protocols and to protect the integrity of each testing environment, cell phones are STRICTLY PROHIBITED from visibility during ANY assessment/exam. Visible cell phones during an assessment/exam will constitute a breach of testing security and the offending student will receive a zero on the assessment/exam, an administrative referral (*for documentation purposes*), parents will be notified, and they will not be allowed to make up or re-take the assessment/exam. Upon acquiring three

administrative referrals, **a referral will be made to the Academic Committee which may lead to dismissal from Arabia Mountain High School.**

Actions considered to constitute cheating include, **but are not limited to:** using unauthorized materials in a test situation, receiving or knowingly giving information regarding a test before and during the test, turning in work for credit which is not one's own, and plagiarism. (See Signature Page)

DISTRICT EXPECTATIONS FOR SUCCESS	
STUDENT PROGRESS	Semester progress reports shall be issued four and a half, nine and thirteen and a half weeks into each semester. The progress of students shall be evaluated frequently and plans shall be generated to remediate deficiencies as they are discovered. Plans shall include appropriate interventions designed to meet the needs of the students. See Board Policy IH.
ACADEMIC INTEGRITY	Students will not engage in an act of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating, providing false information, falsifying school records, forging signatures, or using an unauthorized computer user ID or password. See the Code of Student Conduct - Student Rights and Responsibilities and Character Development Handbook.
HOMEWORK	Homework assignments should be meaningful and should be an application or adaptation of a classroom experience. Homework is at all times an extension of the teaching/learning experience. It should be considered the possession of the student and should be collected, evaluated and returned to the students. See Board Policy IHB.
MAKE-UP WORK DUE TO ABSENCES	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. Make-up work must be completed within the designated time allotted. See Board Policy IHEA.
SCHOOL EXPECTATIONS FOR SUCCESS	
CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS	See Information Below
MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES	2in three ring binder, loose leaf notebook paper, 6 dividers, 2 composition notebooks (NO spiral bound books), sticky notes, 4 GB Flash drive, 2 boxes tissues
EXTRA HELP	Tutorials—Tuesdays 3:30-4:15 (see notice below)
PARENTS AS PARTNERS	TBA

ELA TUTORIAL POLICY

The AMHS English Department requires that students sign up for tutorial spots in advance using the form on each teacher's website. The registration deadline for Tuesday tutorials is 7:15 a.m. Tuesday morning. However, signing up for a spot does not guarantee a space in the tutorial if the maximum amount of spots are already filled. The maximum amount of students per tutorial is 15.

The registration form available on each teacher's website requires that students provide a reason for attending tutorial. Acceptable reasons include needing help with a specific assignment, having questions about a specific concept, or needing to make-up a test or quiz due to an excused absence. Tutorial is not study hall, and teachers do not volunteer their time merely to allow students to complete their homework and socialize. Each teacher reserves the right to deny a tutorial spot if a student does not provide a reason for attending or provides an inappropriate reason for attending (ex. "Because I want to").

During the 2018-2019 school year, the English Department looks forward to making tutorial a more efficient and rewarding experience for students and teachers.

The teacher reserves the right to amend this syllabus to better serve students' academic needs.

PLEASE SIGN BELOW AND RETURN

I _____ have read and understood all components of the American Literature syllabus.

Student Signature _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Date _____

Additional information to support continued contact:

Information	Parent/Guardian
Day Time Phone Number	
Cellular Phone Number	
Home Phone Number	
Email Address	

Mrs. Hamilton

Classroom Rules, Expectations, and Procedures

Rules:

1. Follow directions/be prepared for class
2. Raise your hand to speak
3. Stay in your seat
4. Speak appropriately to adults and peers
 - a. No profanity.
 - b. Use only given name.
 - c. No name calling or teasing.
 - d. No verbal abuse or threats to anyone.
 - e. Never talk back to the teacher!
 - f. Speak Formal English while in class.
5. Behave Appropriately
 - a. Keep your hands and feet to yourself.
 - b. No flying objects.
 - c. No physical or verbal disruption.
6. Absolutely no bullying behavior is tolerated.
 - a. No physical, verbal, sexual harassment.
 - b. No hurtful teasing, gossip or student forced isolation.
 - c. Everyone in this class has the right to feel safe
7. Absolutely **NO FOOD OR DRINKS**—only clear water will be permitted
8. Clear your desk before you leave—left trash/paper/personal items of any kind will result in an automatic 30-minute detention.

Consequences:

1. **Verbal Warning**—Name written on board (with possible seat change)
2. **Parent Contact**—Check by name, parent contact.
3. **Reflective Essay/Detention** —Two checks by name. You will receive an essay topic to be written and returned the next day during your class period.
4. **Teacher/Parent Conference**—I may choose to do this at any time and will keep in contact with parents throughout the school year.
5. **Administrative Action/Expulsion**—An office referral or immediate removal from the classroom
6. **Automatic 30-minute detention**—left trash/paper/personal items of any kind on your desk or surrounding area (floor, under the chair, table top, etc...)
7. **Pink/Blue Slips**—after the 3rd Pink/Blue Slip student will serve an automatic take home detention

Procedures:

A. Entering the classroom

When entering the classroom, you will need to find your seat quickly and begin working on the daily warm-up/bell ringer. Unless otherwise instructed, there is **NO** talking at this time. If you have a question about the warm-up, raise your hand and I will assist you. **Talking during this time for any reason will result in a consequence.**

B. Talking in Class

Talking will not be tolerated when the instructor or a student is speaking, or when the instructor has designated a time for silence. Immediate silence is also mandatory when an announcement comes over the intercom. If you need the instructor's attention, you must raise your hand instead of calling out, or you will not be recognized for your contribution and be warned instead. **A three finger countdown will signal when the instructor needs your attention. You will have three opportunities to become silent before a consequence is initiated.**

C. Active Listening

When an instructor, classmate, or guest is speaking, you will be silent with your eyes on that person. We will show you respect when you share your thoughts and opinions, and you should show that same respect to others. Throughout class, if you have a question, do not hesitate to ask it at the appropriate time. There is no such thing as a “stupid question” if you are genuinely confused, it is likely someone else has the same concern. Our open class atmosphere should embody that belief.

D. Trash

The classroom should never have paper or trash on the floor. Paper should **Not** be “thrown” into the trash can; it should be placed in a recycling container. Keep all trash in your possession unless it is an appropriate time to walk to the trash can (i.e., independent practice.) **The class will not leave until the room is clear of debris.**

E. Personal Grooming

The use of lotion, perfume, hair-brushing or any other sort of personal grooming is not acceptable in the classroom as it is distracting and inappropriate in a professional setting.

F. Bell-to-Bell Instruction

The bell is a signal for instructors to end their lesson. I will let you know when you are dismissed. Students must be in their seats with all trash picked up and materials returned to their proper spots. **Students will not leave until formally dismissed by the instructor.**

G. Substitutes

You will treat substitutes with the same respect that Arabia Mountain expects that you treat all of your instructors. Being a substitute is hard work!

H. Electronic Devices

Cell phones, iPods, etc, must be turned off and out of sight during class as a professional courtesy to your instructor and classmates. (Unless otherwise instructed for use during a lesson) If a device is seen or heard, it will be taken up until the end of the period/end of the day. If this is a reoccurring problem, the device will be held until a parent or guardian can retrieve it. Please do not ask if you may have these devices out.

PLEASE SIGN BELOW AND RETURN

I _____ have read and understand the contents of the American Literature classroom rules and consequences.

Student Signature _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Date _____

Arabia Mountain High School

Academic Dishonesty Policy

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Actions considered to constitute cheating include **but are not limited to:** using unauthorized materials in a test situation, receiving or knowingly giving information regarding a test before and during the test, turning in work for credit which is not one's own, and plagiarism.

I have read and understand the expectations and the Academic Dishonesty policy set forth for *American Literature* at Arabia Mountain High School.

Student's Name _____
(Please Print)

Student's Class Period _____

Student Signature _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Date _____