

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Students read and interpret American literature from the colonial period to the present. During the second semester, students refine their research and writing skills as they compose a longer research paper. Students focus on developing writing style, and they continue their study of grammar and vocabulary.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Credit: 1.0 unit

Eligible Grade Level: 11

Prerequisite: Completion of Sophomore English

COURSE OBJECTIVES/STUDENT OUTCOMES:

Students should be able to:

1. Understand various important concepts and trends in American literature
2. Interpret various forms of American literature, including novels, short stories, and poems.
3. Identify problems in a composition's content, topic sentences, unity, coherence, punctuation and style
4. Write a short essay and research paper with good content, topic sentences, unity, coherence, punctuation, and style.

COURSE OUTLINE:

1. First Semester (Not necessarily in this order)
 - A. Summer novel tests
 - B. Contemporary American author novel [student selected, teacher-approved choice]
 - C. Early American Novel: *Charlotte Temple*, Susanna Rowson
 - D. Contemporary Drama: *The Crucible*, Arthur Miller [found in the textbook]
 - E. Short stories & poetry from hard cover literature text and handouts
 - F. Autobiography, Slave Narrative: *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*
 - G. additional novels will be assigned as individual reading units
2. Second Semester (not necessarily in this order)
 - A. Native American Captivity Novel: *Follow the River*, James Alexander Thom
 - B. Modernist Novel: *The Great Gatsby*, F. Scott Fitzgerald
 - C. War Literature: *The Things They Carried*, Tim O'Brien
 - D. Term paper & associated readings
 - E. Contemporary Nonfiction: *The Color of Water*, James McBride
 - F. Additional novels will be assigned as individual reading units
3. Grammar, style, vocabulary, and composition are yearlong units

COURSE EXPECTATIONS:

1. Required Materials
 - A. Literature Textbook: *The Elements of Literature*, Fifth Course, Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 2009
 - B. *Writing Research Papers: A Complete Guide*. James Lester. 10th Edition
 - C. Supplemental literature: *see above* (**Please purchase supplemental literature only for the first semester as they may change for the second semester**)
 - D. Dry Erase marker(s)
 - E. Blue/Black pens, pencils, red pens, highlighters (preferably in lighter colors like yellow or pink)
 - F. 1 college ruled notebook (and folder if the notebook does not include one)
2. Classroom Policy and Procedures
 - A. Class will begin with intentions and prayer.
 - B. Student Handbook policy for tardiness will be enforced.
 - C. The Academic Honesty and Integrity policy will be adhered to. Please refer to the Student/Parent Handbook for clarification of violations and consequences.
 - D. Plagiarism of any kind is not acceptable. All outside sources, if part of assignment, must be cited. *Cliff's Notes* and other similar materials should NOT be used for writing papers and are not allowed in the classroom.
 - E. No food, drinks or gum are allowed in the classroom without prior consent of the teacher.
 - F. Students should keep all work handed back to them in their English folders.
 - G. Students should keep track of points in their notebook and make an appointment with Ms. Fairhead before or after school to discuss grades.
 - H. Students should bring required materials to class each day. They may be checked at random as a homework grade.

- I. Students who have special testing needs or classroom modifications should inform Ms. Fairhead as soon as possible.
 - J. Student Handbook policies and procedures will be followed in the classroom.
3. Homework Policy
- A. **Late homework is not accepted past the number of days equal to the number of days missed. See Ms. Fairhead before or after school if a special issue needs to be discussed.**
 - B. Compositions will be lowered seven percentage points (one letter grade) for each day late, up to a maximum of four days late.
 - C. Turn your homework in early if you know ahead of time that you will be absent.
 - D. Homework assignments will be worth full, half, or zero credit.
 - E. Daily reading and studying will be assigned; to succeed in junior English, you must study/read at least 5 nights a week. Books especially must be begun well in advance of their due dates.
 - F. Class preparation and participation points will be given on days chosen at random.
 - G. Opportunities for extra credit will not be granted to individual students. Extra credit may be earned when performance on an assignment, a test or quiz, a class discussion, or an activity is worthy of such credit at the discretion of the instructor.
 - H. Homework assignments are posted at the same location every day. Students are expected to write down their homework every day in their assignment books. Because absences are unpredictable, students must take home your books nightly. (<http://new.schoolnotes.com/sfairhead/>) (<http://sfhsnet.org/left/faculty/sfairhead.htm>)
4. Evaluation/grades
- 1. Summer books---15% (5% per book) of quarter one grade
 - 2. Unit Tests--- generally between 50-100 points (25% of grade)
 - 3. Major papers and projects— generally between 50-100 points (25% of grade)
 - 4. Quizzes and shorter papers— approximately 10-30 points (20% of grade)
 - 5. Homework – generally 2-5 points per assignment (15% of grade)
- A. Each quarter grade is 40% of each semester grade.
 - B. Final exams are worth 20% of the semester grade and are cumulative for the semester only.
 - C. Second semester final exam is not cumulative for the year with the exception of grammar and writing concepts.
5. Attendance/Absence
- A. **Students who exceed their absences limit as defined in the Student Handbook will receive academic penalty.**
 - B. Attendance is crucial for a complete understanding of the literature and compositions discussed in class.
 - C. It is the student's responsibility to find out about and complete any missed work due to absence. Please get notes from a classmate and see Ms. Fairhead with questions **at an appropriate, non-disruptful time. See me for any handouts you may have missed.**
 - D. Assignments can be turned in late the number of days equal to the number of days absent. If an assignment was due on the day you were absent, **it must be turned in immediately upon return.**
6. Teacher Availability
- A. I am available before or after school by appointment. Students should see me to set up a meeting if they need assistance with class work.
 - B. My voicemail is listed on the school website, but I prefer email at sfairhead@sfhsnet.org.
 - C. Please allow 24 hours for returned phone calls and emails during the school week.