Course Syllabus

LAN 2000

American Literature

Course Description

Throughout the course of American Literature, students will be able to encounter and experience the full span of America’s rich literary history. The course begins with the literary contributions of America’s first settlers and explores how their faith and difficult circumstances shaped their lives and the literature in which they captured these early moments of America. The course then moves through the Age of Faith, during which the core of American Literature was shaped by a strong and foundational faith, and then into the Age of Reason, during which the world of science and modern thinking started to shape the literature of the times. The study of literature then moves into the Romantic period, and then the Realist period, both of which shaped American Literature at its core and brought about significant changes to the style, structure, and purpose of literature. The introduction of Modern literature includes the literature of the early 1900s, including the Harlem Renaissance, and then Post-Modern literature brings students into the study of contemporary texts. Overall, the course includes literature spanning from the 1500’s to current day, and introduces students to some of the greatest authors and works in American Literature. Genres that are included are: nonfiction essays, diaries, sermons, letters, and editorials, fictional short stories, novel excerpts, and an array of poetry.

Rationale

American Literature is rich with classic works and renowned authors and is a key component of a broad understanding of literature. In the elective course, American Literature, students will investigate works in greater detail and in a greater scope than in the 11th grade survey of American Literature. As students are exposed to these great works, they are also making connections with universal themes still evident in our own nation, as well as the world.

Prerequisites

None
Materials List

Microsoft Office or compatible software
Webcam
Various projects throughout the course will require additional materials

Measurable Learning Outcomes

The student will be able to (TSWBAT):

1. Identify major authors and works of literature
2. Describe the major historical and cultural influences evident in primary works of literature
3. Analyze literature for historical, cultural, authorial, and literary value
4. Model certain genres of writing in their own writing
5. Discuss the presence of universal themes and make comparisons to today’s world
6. Read for understanding and application
7. Research effectively and follow a specific process
8. Write to meet the needs of a specific audience and purpose
9. Speak knowledgeably and effectively on pertinent subjects

VI. Course Requirements and Assignments

1. Individual lesson assessments (1 per lesson)
2. 1 Quiz per Section
3. Various Writing and/or Research Assignments per Module
4. 1 Test per Module
5. 1 Final Exam

Course Grading and Policies

Grading Weights

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lesson Assignments</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes and Written Assignments</td>
<td>35%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tests</td>
<td>40%</td>
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Scale

A  93 – 100
B  85 – 92
C  77 – 84
D  70 – 76
F  Below 70

Other Policies

Academic Misconduct
See pages 32-35 of your Student Handbook

Repeating Assignments
Students have two chances at a daily lesson. Quizzes and tests cannot be repeated to gain a higher grade. Quizzes and tests may be reset for technical issues, but a new set of questions will be generated.