



ENGLISH 31

Insert Teacher Name

Insert Room Number

Insert Full Year/Semester

Insert Period

Insert Email Address

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course focuses on increasing students' personal response to texts by adding reading strategies of research about biography, history, and culture to their repertoire of reading strategies. Students explore the assumptions inherent in the texts they read as well as the assumptions of themselves as readers shaped by their culture. Students read notable works of American literature and analyze those texts in relation to one another. Students write a broad range of formal expository and inventive pieces which include a personal narrative about culture, a narrative of thought about a pervasive idea of the American experience, an argument/proposal about an issue in contemporary American society as well as a speech about that issue, an extended definition about a term related to the American frontier, a memoir about the American Dream, a debate about disenfranchisement and the American Dream, an exploratory essay about inequities in the American society, creative writing from the perspective of a literary character, and a literary analysis of a text from a particular literary period.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Students should:

- recognize, question, and articulate values, beliefs, and practices of the American experience.
- identify cultural assumptions of a text and how they reflect and/or challenge their own assumptions.
- engage in metacognition through reading, writing, collaboration, speaking and debating.
- distinguish how language functions to construct and deconstruct beliefs, meaning, and perceptions.
- construct a knowledge base of American historical and cultural influences.
- increase their ability to think in unconventional and individualistic ways as demonstrated through discourse.
- develop familiarity with literary criticism in order to challenge and qualify the literary perspectives of others through writing and discourse.
- write formal papers that go through the full steps of the writing process, including:
 - Personal Narrative
 - Narrative of Thought
 - Argument / Proposal
 - Persuasive Speech
 - Extended Definition Essay
 - Memoir
 - Literary Analysis
 - Creative Writing
- demonstrate an expanded view of economic, social, and racial factors which influence their individual assumptions and the assumptions of the national culture as well as the local culture.
- conduct research utilizing print and non-print sources.
- demonstrate narrative, deductive, and inductive thinking in expository writing and oral presentations.

UNITS OF STUDY

- American Culture
- Individualism in America Society
- Individual Thought and Independent Action
- The American Frontier: Then and Now
- The American Dream
- Inequities in American Society
- American Literary Periods

COURSE POLICIES AND REQUIREMENTS

GRADING

Summative Assessments:	Insert % Here (Minimum of 70%). Insert Categories/Weighting (ie. Papers – 30%)
Formative Assessments:	Insert % Here (Maximum of 30%). Insert Categories/Weighting (ie. Quizzes – 50%)
Behavioral Characteristics:	Insert % Here (Maximum of 10%) Insert Categories/Weighting (ie. Particip. - 90%)
Insert Additional Grading Information Here	

MATERIALS

Insert Course Materials Here (ie. Textbook, Binder, Calculator, Highlighters)

EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENTS

Insert Course Expectations Here

EXTRA HELP

Insert Course Expectations Here

Insert Additional Information Here