

Course Name:	American Literature	Text books: Glencoe Literature: The Reader's Choice, American Literature, Copyright 2007 by the McGraw-Hill Companies *All others are listed below in the unit overview.	
Credits:	1		
Prerequisites:	English 9, World Literature		
Description:	This one credit course is designed to meet the needs of those students who will not be taking AP English coursework. Students will read, analyze, and discuss short stories, essays, poems, and a play from an American Literature anthology, as well as at least two additional novels. Author information, historical connections, literary terms, and vocabulary will also be discussed in context. Larger writing tasks include a character comparison literary analysis essay, researched and documented persuasive essay, and ACT practice essays. Individual and group projects and ACT test preparation/practice will also occur throughout the year.		
Academic Standards:	Common Core State Standards for ELA Grade 11		
Units:	Unit Length:	Unit Standards:	Unit Outcomes:
1-Early American Literature Theme: Confronting Obstacles	Q1, September, 4 weeks	RL1-9, W1, SL1,3, L1-3	Students will read and study early American nonfiction/fiction works for content and literary elements, explore how the circumstances of early Americans forced them to "confront obstacles", explain how bias affected the viewpoints of early Americans and their writing, and make connections between early America and modern society.
2-Drama with Historical Context-- <i>The Crucible</i> , The Salem Witch Trials, and Character Comparison Literary Analysis Essay Theme: Fear, Persecution, and Courage	Q1, October, 5 weeks	RL1-9, W2-6,9, SL1-3, L1-6	Students will study the structure of drama, apply literary elements to aid in understanding, make connections to history by studying The Salem Witch Trials and Red Scare, read a difficult text for comprehension and analysis, discuss the themes of "fear", "persecution", and "courage", analyze different interpretations and formats of a common storyline, and compare two important play characters in a literary analysis essay.
3-Gothic/Southern Gothic Literature Theme: Gothic/Southern Gothic	Q2, November, 4 weeks	RL1-9, W1,9, SL1, L2-3	Students will read and study works of Gothic and Southern Gothic writers for content and literary elements, analyze similarities and differences between the styles, and determine how events of the time period influenced Gothic and Southern Gothic writers.
4-Persuasion in Media and Writing: Documentary Films, Research, Types of Arguments, Documentation, Essay, and Presentation	Q2, December-January, 6 weeks	RI 1-9, W1-9, SL1-5, L1-6	Students will study persuasion in media/writing and how to critically analyze, develop, write, and present arguments. Documentary filmmaking, including fallacies/bias and types of arguments, will be analyzed along with effective research strategies and correct utilization and documentation of outside sources. Students will choose a persuasive topic important to them and create an effective presentation to showcase their opinions and a documented essay to further analyze multiple facets of their argument.

5--Novel with Historical Context-- <i>To Kill A Mockingbird</i> , The Great Depression, and Southern Society; Novel Project Theme: Injustice and Struggle	Q3, February-March, 5 weeks	RL1-9, W1, 7-9, SL 1,4,5, L2-4	Students will study a novel for analysis and connections to historical context, recognize and apply literary elements to aid in understanding, discuss the themes of "injustice" and "struggle", compare two media with the same plot, and create a novel project that effectively showcases further analysis of at least one facet of the novel.
6--American Masters of Poetry and Poetry Writing/Projects Theme: Changing Forms and Messages	Q3, March-April, 4 weeks	RL1-6, W1,2,6, SL1,4,5, L3-4	Students will study masters of American poetry, recognize and apply literary elements to aid in understanding, determine how the forms and messages of American poetry changed/developed from early to modern times, work collaboratively in a group to explore/teach a poem to the class, explicate a poem in detail, and write a sonnet with correct structure.
7--Naturalistic Literature and Comparison Slideshow Theme: Survival in a Harsh World	Q4, April-May, 3 weeks	RL 7-9, W1,6, SL 1-5	Students will read works of Naturalism for the purpose of recognizing Naturalistic characteristics, analyzing for content and literary elements, exploring the theme of "survival in a harsh world", and comparing Naturalistic elements in a slideshow.
8--Evolution of 20th Century American Literature and Bag Speech Project Theme: Realism, Modern, Harlem Renaissance, and Contemporary Literature	Q4, May-June, 5 weeks	RL1-9, W1,6, SL 1,4-5, L1,5-6	Students will read and study works of Realism, Modern, Harlem Renaissance, and Contemporary literature for content and literary elements, analyze similarities and differences between the styles, determine how changes in society influenced literature, and create and deliver a short speech explaining objects and values important to their lives.
9--Vocabulary Study	Bi-weekly for duration of school year (or within units of study)	RL4, RI4, W1, SL1, L2-4	Students will study grade-level vocabulary, common ACT vocabulary, and vocabulary in context independently and collaboratively.
10--Writing/Grammar Workshop	Daily mini-lessons (or as needed)	L5-6	Students will study, review, and practice elements of grammar, sentencing, usage, and editing to enhance their writing and communication and to prepare for the English section of the ACT.
11--ACT Preparation and Persuasive Essay Practice	Mini-units throughout the school year and with more intensity before the ACT Exam	W2-4, SL1, L5-6	Students will examine and practice sample ACT English, reading, and writing questions to be informed, prepared, and successful on the ACT Exam. They will discuss scoring rubrics, results, test strategies, and plans for individual improvement in each area.
12--Independent Novel Reading and Projects	One novel per semester is encouraged	RL1-9, W1, SL4-5, L3	Students will choose and read independent novels based on individual interests, recognize and apply literary elements to aid in comprehension and analysis, and complete projects to illustrate understanding.