



Northern York County School District

Curriculum Overview

Course: American Literature	
Grade Level: 11	
Approval Date:	Length of Time: 180
Course Description: <p>Analysis of literature spanning the colonial era and concluding with modern day literature that allows students to refine understanding of literary techniques and vocabulary through the study of multiple literary movements as well as the significance of historical and cultural events connected to our national literature. In addition to the course text, multiple full-length novels/dramas are read. Evaluations include objective quizzes and tests, written responses, and other creative project-based assessments. Students will refine basic writing practices by engaging in research and text-based informal and formal short responses as well as essay style writing in both informative and persuasive modes that require the integration of textual evidence and awareness of style and conventions.</p>	
Course Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Incorporate accurate references to text via research to convey a central idea developed from relevant key details and techniques.• Identify varied communication techniques to convey a clear message regarding literary themes or key ideas to varied audiences.• Analyze an author's purpose across multiple texts using relevant textual evidence to explain how the purpose is communicated.• Identify literary elements and techniques to uncover character motivation and thematic meaning in works of literature.• Construct a clear position to garner relevant support and ensure credibility.• Analyze a topic or concept among multiple resources delineating clear supporting reasons or credible evidence with an awareness of language and style for varied purposes and audiences.	
Related Standards: <p>PA Common Core English Language Arts Standards: CC.1.2 Analyze foundational U.S. and world documents of historical, political, and literary significance for their themes, purposes, and rhetorical features. CC.1.2: Acquire and use accurately general academic and domain-specific words and phrases, sufficient for reading, writing, speaking, and listening at the college and career readiness level; demonstrate independence in gathering vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression. CC.1.3: Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences and conclusions based on and related to an author's implicit and explicit assumptions and beliefs.</p>	

CC.1.3: Demonstrate knowledge of foundational works of literature that reflect a variety of genres in the respective major periods of literature, including how two or more texts from the same period treat similar themes or topics.

CC.1.4: Develop and analyze the topic thoroughly by selecting the most significant and relevant facts, extended definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples appropriate to the audience's knowledge of the topic.

CC.1.4: Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research, applying grade-level reading standards for literature and literary nonfiction.

CC.1.4: Gather relevant information from multiple authoritative print and digital sources, using advanced searches effectively; assess the strengths and limitations of each source in terms of the task, purpose, and audience; integrate information into the text selectively to maintain the flow of ideas, avoiding plagiarism and overreliance on any one source and following a standard format for citation.

CC.1.5: Initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions on grade-level topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.

Units:

- Voices of a New World: Colonial and Revolutionary Literature
- Real Talk: Realism in Fiction
- The American Renaissance: Romanticism and Naturalism
- Beyond the American Dream: 20th and 21st Century American Literature

Concepts:

- **Written Communication:** The ability to articulate a central idea, convey information tailored to specific audiences and purposes. Students develop this skill by utilizing a clear and purposeful voice, employing an effective organizational strategy, and growing control over language, style, and tone.
- **Verbal Communication:** The ability to effectively convey ideas using appropriate speaking strategies and techniques. Students develop this skill by engaging in dialogue, discussion, and active listening via various guided and independent activities.
- **Critical Reading & Thinking:** The ability to analyze texts to uncover deeper meanings, analyze a claim, and form sound interpretations of text or other media. Students explore these skills by engaging with varied texts and strategies. Students learn to read actively and critically by making connections to text and society.
- **Synthesizing Information:** the ability to integrate information, perspectives, and concepts from multiple sources to construct a cohesive, original interpretation or argument. In 11th grade, students advance this skill by critically evaluating the relationships among texts, identifying thematic and conceptual

Competencies:

- Use text references to support arguments in written and verbal communication.
- Develop an understanding of the author's purpose with text evidence while developing a personal response to works being analyzed.
- Identify and analyze credible sources to support arguments.
- Identify and interpret literary elements/techniques to analyze character motivation and themes.
- Develop an understanding of historical and cultural events connected to our national literature and how these texts relate to students' lives today

<p>connections, and thoughtfully incorporating evidence to support complex claims.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluating Information: The ability to assess credibility of sources and ideas to make informed, evidence-based judgments. Students develop this skill by evaluating varied sources via evaluation of context and perspective. • Planning & Organization: The ability to effectively manage time, prioritize tasks, and structure work to meet academic goals with efficiency and precision. Students will explore and develop an understanding of strategies and techniques to meet goals via long-term or extended activities. 	
<p>Learning Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formal and informal written response • Text analysis • Small group and whole group discussion • Group collaboration projects • Research-Based Activities 	<p>Performance Tasks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classwork • Projects • Quizzes • Unit tests • Socratic seminars • Presentations • Written Response
<p>Other Assessment Measures:</p> <p>Keystone Literature Exam ASVAB</p>	
<p>Textbook/Primary Resource:</p> <p><i>Adventures in American Literature</i> – Athena Edition <i>Of Mice and Men</i> by John Steinbeck <i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i> by Harper Lee <i>The Great Gatsby</i> (Graphic Novel) by F. Scott Fitzgerald <i>Fahrenheit 451</i> by Ray Bradbury <i>The Crucible</i> by Arthur Miller</p>	
<p>Supplemental Resource Materials:</p> <p><i>The Catcher in the Rye</i> by J.D. Salinger <i>The Things They Carried</i> by Tim O’Brien <i>The Glass Castle</i> by Jeannette Walls <i>A Separate Peace</i> by John Knowles</p>	