



LINCOLN-WOODSTOCK COOPERATIVE SCHOOL DISTRICT COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Name: English 11 (American Literature)

Length: Full year

Teacher: Ms. Witcher

Course Description: This American Literature course focuses on reading, writing, and speaking/listening, all supporting New Hampshire's adoption of the ELA Common Core Standards. American authors read and studied include the following: Herman Melville, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Edgar Allan Poe, Kate Chopin, James Thurber, Arthur Miller, Flannery O'Connor, Alice Walker, Upton Sinclair, Tim O'Brien, F. Scott Fitzgerald, and several others. Independent reading is a course requirement. Students will continue building their foundation of the writing process, including narrative, expository and analytical/ argumentative genres.

Competencies or Standards Assessed:

Competency: Reading

Literature: Demonstrate the ability to comprehend, analyze, and critique a variety of complex print and non-print literary texts.

Informational: Demonstrate the ability to comprehend, analyze, and critique a variety of complex print and non-print informational texts.

Competency: Writing

Argumentative: Demonstrate the ability to analyze and critique texts or topics and support claims and reasoning with sufficient evidence for the intended purpose and audience.

Explanatory: Demonstrate the ability to effectively write informative texts to examine and convey complex ideas for various purposes and audiences.

Narrative: Demonstrate the ability to apply narrative strategies for various purposes and audiences effectively.



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Competency: Speaking and Listening

Speaking and Listening: Initiate and participate effectively in various discussions, responding thoughtfully to diverse perspectives and expressing ideas clearly and persuasively.

Competency: Research

Research: Engage in research and inquiry to investigate topics, and to analyze, integrate, and present information

Competency: Conventions and Mechanics

Conventions and Mechanics: Demonstrate the ability to use English language conventions as appropriate to grade level. Specifically, the proper use of grammar, mechanics, and usage. Also, the ability to apply proper formatting, including MLA citations and Works Cited.

Anchor Texts or Major Curriculum:

The Great Gatsby, The Things They Carried, The Smell of Other People's Houses, The Silent Patient, an assortment of short stories by American authors

Course Outline (major units of study):

Unit Title	Essential Question or Overarching Understanding
The American Dream	What is the American Dream? To what extent is the American Dream achievable for all Americans?
The Large Hearts of Heroes/ The Wages of War	Why do countries go to war? How does war affect people physically and mentally?
Generation to Generation	Are you affected more by your environment or your genetics? Do you have the power to change your environment? How much responsibility do we hold for the events that happen in our lives?



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Psychoanalysis and Goth	What are the feelings associated with suspense? What techniques does an author use to create suspense?
The Realms of Darkness	What can we learn about ourselves when examining flaws in characters and others? How do feelings of revenge and jealousy motivate characters to commit actions they might not otherwise commit?
Informational Text	

Portrait of a Learner

Independent Learner

I make thoughtful plans and do my best to reach personal goals using feedback to work through challenges.

Responsible Collaborator

I work with others to achieve shared goals by listening actively, contributing ideas, and managing conflict.

Critical Thinker

I analyze information, ask thoughtful questions, and apply reasoning skills to solve problems and make decisions.

Effective Communicator

I express ideas clearly, adapting strategies based on the audience, setting, and/or purpose.

Global Citizen

I show that I care and take responsibility by helping in my community and the world around me.

Additional Classroom Expectations: