



**American Literature**  
**Instructor: Ms. Levinson**  
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**In emergencies: 312.545.4925**  
**Course Syllabus 2018-2019**

**Welcome!**

Welcome to second year American Literature! I am excited to work with you all this year. I commit to providing you a challenging, engaging curriculum that will push you towards a higher level of literacy, college readiness, and critical thinking. I look forward to getting to know you as individuals and supporting you on your educational journey

**Course Objectives**

The objective of the course is to use a skill-based approach to enhance students' knowledge of the English language as well as to develop stronger readers, writers and lifelong learners. By the end of the school year, students will be able to:

- Think and respond critically to a variety of non-fiction texts and multiple other literary genre
- Evaluate, organize and understand global perspectives on contemporary issues
- Develop well-organized papers that include strong thesis statements and well-supported ideas
- Use an increased understanding of grammar, mechanics, and vocabulary

Grading Weights		Grading Scale		
Classwork/ Participation	20%	90 - 100%	A	Highest Mastery
Homework	15%	80 - 89%	B	Excellent Work
Mastery: Essays/ Tests/ quizzes	50%	70 - 79%	C	Average Work
Growth	5%	60 - 69%	D	Poor Work
Final exam	10%	< 60%	F	Failing

**Policies & Procedures:**

- **Respect:** Teacher and students will respect each other at all times. Only with mutual respect will we be able to speak and write freely and share ideas in both speaking and writing. ***No racist, sexist, homophobic, gender-biased, ableist, transphobic or otherwise derogatory speech that is degrading to any specific group of people.***
- **Conduct:** Students will be responsible for maintaining behavior that does not interfere with

the learning of others. The student handbook provides guidelines for good conduct. Headphones are only allowed in class by teacher discretion. Unless provided by your teacher, food is NOT allowed in class, including gum. Any instance of plagiarism will require a teacher-parent conference and will result in automatic failure of the assignment.

- Materials: Students will need a binder and notebook for this class. Each day bring your supplies to class, including your texts.
- Typing/Word Processing: All polished drafts and essays must be typed (12 point Times New Roman font, double spaced, 1" margins). Please pay attention to submission details; some assignments will be turned in using Google classroom, some through Blackboard and Turnitin, and some by hand.
- Homework: You may be assigned homework every day. Your homework should be ready to be checked in at the beginning of class. Turn in your homework, then begin your bellringer. Homework may be turned in up to 1 day late for ½ credit. If you have an excused absence, homework the day you missed can be submitted when you return with no penalty.

Get familiar with the student code of conduct! I will enforce all rules in the handbook. Students will not receive warnings for items in the code of conduct.

Tardy policy: As sophomores, it is your responsibility to be on time to class, ready to work, and learning throughout the entire class period. When Our door closes, class has started – you are tardy. We will follow all tardy procedures in the student code of conduct.

Our focus is on your achievement and mastery of skills. We are excited to grow with you as readers, writers, and critical thinkers!

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*Dear Student and Parent(s):*

*Please read the syllabus. Know that you may leave a message @ 773.545.4925. (Please speak clearly, state your name and your child's name, leave your number slowly and a time when it would be best to return your call.)*

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I have read and acknowledge the full syllabus. If I have further questions, I will contact the instructor.

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**Student's printed name**

Date