

**Syllabus for Sophomore CP English: American Literature**  
**Miss Jelinek- Room 105B**  
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**“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid.” - Matthew 5:14**

**“With our eyes fixed on the future, but recognizing the realities of today... we will achieve our destiny to be as a shining city on a hill for all mankind to see.” - Ronald Reagan, 1978**

***Course Description:***

College Prep American Literature, a year-long sophomore level course, is designed to acquaint the student with the works of major American authors from the period of 1500 to the present. Students will interact with high quality works of various genres that reflect the origins and development of an American literary tradition that is unique and diverse. Through a chronological approach, this tradition will be explored in the historical, cultural, and personal context of human experience in America. Relevant connections between the literature and the life of the student will be sought. Through instruction and active participation, students will continue to develop the skills needed for literary discussion, analysis, and comparison expected on this level of study. Systematic vocabulary and etymology study will complement the literary study. Research skills and techniques will be advanced and applied. In addition, students will develop and apply written and oral communication skills both individually and cooperatively.

\* You will have one final exam at the end of the school year that will be CUMULATIVE. **SAVE SAVE SAVE SAVE** all work, notes, study guides, and quizzes. These will all be very vital to you for your final- I promise.\*

***Primary Text:***

Elements of Literature: Fifth Course  
(Required daily unless otherwise announced)

***Supplemental Texts:***

Writers Inc.: A Student Handbook for Writing and Learning  
Tentative novels that we will be reading:  
Of Mice and Men and Native Son

***Materials Required:***

3- Ring Binder (looseleaf) - for this course only	index cards (can purchase later)
Tabs	highlighters
	blue and black pens

***Help Night:***

My official help night will occur on Tuesdays and Thursdays until 4:00 p.m. However, I will arrive at school by 7:45 a.m. each morning, and I do not leave (except Fridays) until 3:30 p.m. each day. So, PLEASE do not hesitate to come ask for help.

***Late Work:***

All assignments are due at the beginning of class. Any work turned in after that will be **LATE**. For **EACH DAY LATE** (not class) you will lose **10%** on the assignment. For major assignments, such as essays, papers, projects or presentations I will expect an email or a call to the school by your parent/guardian informing me of your absence or else you will lose **20% EACH DAY**. Late drafts forfeit review/conferences. **IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY** to see me the **NEXT** day you return for any homework or assessments missed. Failure to do so will result in a “0” on the assignment or assessment taken the day you missed.

\*Any computer generated assignments completed you should save in the server folder until the final grade is posted. In the event of a missing or lost assignment, the burden of proof that the assignment was completed by the deadline rests with the student.\*

***TQ Assignments:***

I will inform you of certain assignments that we do that can help you achieve your technology quotient. The use of technology will be incorporated in this course through research, presentations, and other assignments.

***Homework Page:***

Assignments can be found on my web page on the MPS site. It is your responsibility to find out what assignments were missed in class either through emailing me, coming to see me the next day you return to school, or by checking the homework page. Do NOT wait numerous days to come find me and expect to not receive a penalty on the assignments. The homework page will generally be updated every day.

***Grading:***

You will be graded accordingly to the grading scale that is in the school handbook. Throughout the year you will be graded on numerous assessments: homework checks, vocabulary assignments, vocabulary tests, homework assignments, in-class writes (writing assignments), essays, presentations, projects, tests, and in-class “active” participation.

***Final Course Grade:***

“A” and “B” - These are honor grades, and both require superior work. The grades represent, respectively, work that is outstanding relative to the basic course requirements, and work that is significantly above course requirements.

“C” - Signifies work that meets the basic requirements of the course.

“D” - Signifies that work meets some, although not all of the requirements of the course.

“F” - Signifies that work does not meet the requirements of the course.

~\*Expectations of personal conduct are based on mutual **respect**, integrity, and the standards of MPS. I look forward and am excited in sharing this learning experience with you throughout the year.\*~

***Tentative Course Outline:***

(Vocabulary will be covered throughout the entire year)

**Unit 1 Native American Tales/ Way to Rainy Mountain**

**Unit 2 Colonial and Puritan works**

**Unit 3 Research and MLA format**

**Unit 4 Rationalism**

**Unit 5a American Romanticism (over view)**

**Unit 5b The American Renaissance**

**Unit 6 American Realism**

**Unit 7 The Twentieth Century Moderns**

**Unit 8 Contemporary American Voices**

**\*Please familiarize your parents with this syllabus\***