

# American Literature Syllabus

## **Teacher**

Miss Plunkett

## **Email**

[j.plunkett@pndhs.org](mailto:j.plunkett@pndhs.org)

## **Room**

E-34

## **Website**

[www.msplunkett.weebly.com](http://www.msplunkett.weebly.com)

## **Availability**

I am available anytime after 7:30 AM before school, and until 3:30 PM after school. Arrangements can be made for a later/earlier time for extra help, to make up work, discuss grades, or ask questions. I will be as flexible as I can, please do the same!

## **Required Text (Provided)**

*Prentice Hall Literature: Timeless Voices, Timeless Themes, The American Experience*

*Prentice Hall Writing and Grammar: Communication in Action - Ruby Level*

A selection of novels

## **Course Overview**

The course is a chronological survey of American Literature and its historical perspectives including non-fiction, short stories, novels, poetry, and drama. Emphasis is on reading for understanding, terminology, structure, analysis of literature, and on the development of composition skills. Instruction in student writing continues through an ordered sequence of personal and literary essays. Instruction in grammar focuses on review and how to create a research project integrating multi-media sources.

## **Course Materials**

Students are expected to bring all materials to class each day:

1. Laptop - CHARGED (very few outlets to use for charging in my room)
2. Folder to hold handouts/papers (may also use binder if you prefer)
3. Notebook
4. Writing Utensils
5. USB drive (this can be used for other classes as well - you do not need one specifically for my class)

## Resources

[www.msplunkett.weebly.com](http://www.msplunkett.weebly.com) - this the general website for my class. It will hold the course calendar, and basic information about policies. Under the “Intro to Lit” tab, you will find a link to this class’ Google Classroom page. The code to join this class will be provided on the first day of school. This is where assignments will be turned in, and discussions will take place. Parents, I encourage you to follow along on the weebly page, and it is up to you whether or not you choose to join the Google Classroom page.

## Course Requirements & Evaluations

The students will complete weekly and daily assignments, tests, quizzes, projects, assigned readings, and written assignments. Students will also participate in class and read three novels. The objectives of this course will be evaluated using tests, quizzes, written assignments, projects, and oral participation.

## Classroom Expectations

- Be on time. You will receive two free unexcused tardies before a detention.
- You are responsible to late/makeup work. Please email me if you know you will be absent and make arrangements to catch up on work you missed. Please email me assignments that are due when you are absent.
- You are expected to participate in class daily.
- Be respectful of other students, your teachers, and the classroom.
- Plagiarism is a serious offense. A zero will be given for the assignment and school administration will be notified for disciplinary action.
- The laptops are a privilege. You are expected to use them as a tool for your learning, and stay on task throughout class. A warning may or may not be given to stay on task before computer privileges are lost in my class.

## Course Outline (Part A)

*\* Note: this outline is subject to change. For more up-to-date information on in-class and out-of-class work, please check the course calendar on the website.*

### A. First Six Weeks

- a. Literature: Unit 1: Beginnings - 1750; Unit 2: A Nation is Born (1750-1800)
- b. Grammar: Ch. 13: Parts of Speech; Ch. 14: The Sentence
- c. Composition: Ch. 11: Writing Complete Sentences; Ch. 12: Writing Effective Sentences

### B. Second Six Weeks

- a. Unit 3: A Growing Nation (1800-1870); Literature: Unit 4: Division, Reconciliation, and Expansion (1850-1914)
- b. Grammar: Ch. 15: The Phrase; Ch. 16: The Clause
- c. Novel Study

**Major Assignments**

Major assignments include a minimum of 3 papers, reading of a novel and play, and completion of a poetry project. These assignments will all be detailed in an assignment sheet and listed on the course calendar.

**Homework Policy**

Homework will be assigned daily and posted on the course calendar. Homework is due the next day at the beginning of class unless otherwise specified. Late work will be accepted up to one week past the due date. You will receive 5% off for each day that it is late. After one week, the assignment will receive a zero. If you are going to be absent (athletic event, doctor appointment etc) please email your work in (most homework can be emailed) or arrange to turn it in before you leave.