**American literature SYLLABUS**

Teacher: Rylan Shannon

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Office Hours:  7:15 a.m. – 7:45 a.m. in Rm. 202

Prep: 7th Hour

**Course Syllabus**

**American Literature**

**Northland Preparatory Academy 2021-22**

**Course Description:**

A survey of American literature from the period of exploration and settlement to the present. Students will study works of prose, poetry, drama, and fiction in relation to their historical and cultural contexts. Texts will be selected from among a diverse group of authors for what they reflect and reveal about the evolving American experience and character.

**Course Reading Goals:**

To build a foundation for college and career readiness, students must read widely and deeply from among a broad range of high-quality, increasingly challenging literary and informational texts. Through extensive reading of stories, dramas, poems, and myths and exposure to visual media from diverse cultures and different time periods, students gain literary and cultural knowledge as well as familiarity with various text structures and elements. By reading texts in history/social studies, science, and other disciplines, students build a foundation of knowledge in these fields that will also give them the background to be better readers in all content areas. Students can only gain this foundation when the curriculum is intentionally and coherently structured to develop rich content knowledge within and across grades. Students also acquire the habits of reading independently and closely, which are essential to their future success. (AZCCR)

**Course Writing Goals:**

To build a foundation for college and career readiness, students need to use writing as a tool for learning and communicating to offer and support opinions, demonstrate understanding of the subjects they are studying, and convey real and imagined experiences and events. They learn to appreciate that a key purpose of writing is to communicate clearly to an external, sometimes unfamiliar audience, and they begin to adapt the form and content of their writing to accomplish a particular task and purpose. They develop the capacity to build knowledge on a subject through research projects and to respond analytically to literary and informational sources. To meet these goals, students must devote significant time and effort to writing, producing numerous pieces over short and extended time frames throughout the year. (AZCCR)

**Academic Integrity:**

You are expected to maintain and promote an environment of academic integrity. Acts of academic dishonesty are very serious offenses and will be dealt with accordingly. Copying another student’s work, allowing your own work to be copied, and all types of plagiarism will result in disciplinary action. Please see the Student Handbook for additional information regarding the school policy of academic honesty.

**Grading:**

In general, the more important an assignment, the more points will be possible. Grade inquiries will need to be made outside of regular class time. Please utilize FamilyLink to stay abreast of the course grade. The final exam for this course is comprehensive and accounts for fifteen percent of the grade for the course.

**Class and Homework:**

When Classwork is assigned, if you do not complete it in class, it becomes homework. If you do not turn in your work the day it is due or during the class period, you have until the end of that unit to turn it in. I will not accept work that is being turned in after its unit is over.  If you miss a day of school, it is your responsibility to ask a peer what you missed and find the missing work in your personal folder in my cart. Homework following an absence must be made up by the end of the unit. If a large project is due and you are absent, **you must turn in the project the day you return.**

**Texts: All texts will be provided by NPA**

*The Crucible* by Arthur Miller

*To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee

*The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald

*Homegoing* by Yaa Gyasi

*There There* by Tommy Orange

*Beloved* by Toni Morrison

**Supplies:**

1. A college-ruled notebook or college ruled loose leaf paper
2. Pencils or Pens (black or dark blue ink)
3. 3 Divider Tabs for Notes, Vocabulary, and Grammar
4. A 1.5" binder for class notes and handouts
5. Access to a personal device

**Respectful Classroom Conduct:**

Due to the comprehensive nature of this course and the sometimes-troubling nature of American history, sensitive subjects and controversial issues may be raised in class. Respect for diversity of opinion and the serious nature of this material is required. All opinion is welcome, but personal attacks and sexist or racist language will not be tolerated

**Attendance and Behavior:**

If you do not come to school, you cannot learn.  If you do not learn, you cannot pass this class.  If you do not pass this class, you will not graduate.  It is that simple.  Come to school, complete your work, and be respectful while you are here.  It is in your best interest.  Be on time and be ready to learn. If you are not here, you cannot earn your participation points. Finally, notice your nice big blue roller chairs? Do not roll across the classroom in them, I will have Mr. Joe Gaun bring you a non-rollie chair that you will have to use for the rest of the school year.

**Communication:**

The best way to contact me is through email. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions regarding your student’s grades or schoolwork.

**Acceptable Use of Personal Technology:**

You may use your cell phone or other device to listen to music during student work time if it does not interfere with the learning of those around you. Personal technology that interrupts the course or your fellow students will not be tolerated.

**MLA:**

All assignments must be submitted with the correct MLA format. Assignments that do not have the correct heading or header will not be accepted for credit. There are templates and samples on the course Web site. If you need clarification on this formatting, please see me immediately.

**Classroom Resources:**

If you need a pencil or a piece of paper, please ask. However, you are responsible for supplies and materials. Please come to class with your novel, your binder, and necessary writing utensils.

**Returned Materials and Handouts:**

I pass papers back via the student files. If you are absent, please check the files for returned work and missed handouts. Students should access these materials outside of class time. We work bell to bell. Please don’t interrupt instruction to retrieve your work from the folders.

**Mission Focus:**

This is English class. Our time belongs to our mission: to read, write, think, and communicate. Work for your other classes should be conducted outside of our class time. You should never plan to do the work for your afternoon classes in the morning on the day they are due. Plan accordingly. Academic honesty rules also apply. Expect serious consequences if you are copying someone else’s work for another class