

English 6A: American Literature

2nd Semester Junior Year

Instructor	Mr. Neville	Room	250
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Description

We will pick up where 5A left off, studying the modern and contemporary movements in American Literature. The focus in this class will have a bigger emphasis not on the historical and literary movements of the United States, but more on how the drastic changes taking place at the turn of the 20th century affected the writers of the time and their response to these changes. As with all accelerated courses, the pace of this class will be a bit quicker than others.

Text and Units of Study

Elements of Literature: Essentials of American Literature

We will attempt to cover each of the following units in this class:

Collection 11: Make it New and Collection 18: Contemporary Poetry (Transcendental, Modern and Contemporary Poetry)

Collection 12: Modern American Fiction (Short Stories)

Collection 16: Contemporary Fiction (Short Stories)

In addition, we will cover the following supplemental texts:

Novel: <i>The Great Gatsby</i>	F. Scott Fitzgerald
Novel: <i>A Farewell to Arms</i>	Ernest Hemingway
Novel: <i>The Grapes of Wrath</i>	John Steinbeck
Novel: <i>Wabash</i>	Robert Olen Butler

There may be addition selections at instructor's discretion.

Goals

1. Understand how the history of America impacts its writing.
2. Understand the major themes, movements, and philosophies which evolved in American writing.

Expectations

No one is obligated to be responsible for you except you. What and how you do in this class is completely up to you and no one can change that. My response to your work and behavior will vary depending on the individual situations.

Learning Expectations:

You are responsible for completing work as assigned. This includes reading assignment, quizzes, and homework. Additionally, tests will be announced well in advance and you should prepare adequately. Your grade will be a reflection of your effort in this class.

Behavior Expectations and Consequences:

In addition to the abiding by the rules found in the GCHS Student Handbook, you are expected to act appropriately at all times in my classroom. If at any time your behavior is not deemed appropriate, you will be asked to correct that behavior or to remove yourself from the classroom. Your grade will likely reflect your attitude as well as your behavior.

Academic Dishonesty, Plagiarism, and Cheating:

Plagiarism (**purposeful or accidental**), cheating, or any other form of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated in this class. It is your responsibility to check that your work is properly cited, free of any “lifted” material without mention of the source, and is in fact your own effort. **Any plagiarism will result in a zero for the work. NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE!** Disciplinary action will also be a consideration resulting in an office referral.

Likewise, cheating in any form will result in a zero for the assignment as well as disciplinary actions. Examples of cheating are as follow (but not limited to): copying answers or other information (or allowing others to copy) on any assignment, taking another person’s work as your own, or using any form of a study aid during examinations and the like. **It is solely at the instructor’s discretion to determine academic dishonesty.**

NOTE and UNDERSTAND: Any “course critical” work found to be plagiarized will result in a zero and a failing grade for the overall course.

Nuts and Bolts

Seats and the Leaving the Room:

You are to be in your assigned seats at all times when you are in this room. If you need to take care of something before the bell rings, do so on your own. Just be sure to be in your seats when the bell rings. **You will be tardy if you are not in your assigned seat when the bell rings.**

You will be given the latitude to leave the room to use the restroom, go to your locker, or perform other “errands” as you see fit.

Understand that if you leave the room during class, this is at your discretion, is your decision, and you will receive a tardy.

Homework and Late Assignments:

You will be given one opportunity to turn in homework during the class. Any homework not turned in when requested will not be accepted.

NO LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED IN THIS CLASS!

Major assignments/papers are the only exception to this rule. Assignments of this type will be reduced 1 letter grade per day.

Website and Missing Work or Absences:

I have set up a website for this class that can be accessed from your home as well as from the Media Center. All assignments will be posted to this site so you will have access to the work we do daily. It is your responsibility to get any work that you miss. Become familiar with the website as soon as possible. Losing your work or forgetting the assignment is not an excuse. If you are absent, the student handbook takes effect. Be familiar with the rules in your handbook.

Electronic Devices:

Use of electronic device is at the instructor’s discretion. You are encouraged to use your smartphones to “Google things” that you need to know. Understand that beyond educational purposes, electronic devices are detrimental to your learning, harmful to your social existence and your life, and could be lowering your intelligence. Additionally, if they become a class problem, they will be dealt with accordingly, including have them removed from the class.

ANY use of an electronic device during testing will be considered cheating; the offender will be given a zero on the exam.

End-of-Period Dismissal:

Remain in your seats and ready to work at all times when class is in session. Do not pack your things five minutes before the bell and do not jump up when the bell rings. I will dismiss you from class.

Grades:

Your grade in this class will be based on the percentages broken into three categories: Assessments (45%), Writing (35%), and Participation (20%). Grades will be assigned per the grade scale below:

A = 100 - 90

B = 89 - 80

C = 79 - 70

D = 69 - 60

The final exam for this class IS REQUIRED and will count for 20% of the overall grade.

Note: Due to a variety of issues that may arise during the semester, this syllabus is subject to change at instructor's discretion.