

MVHS Junior Year English Course Selection (for 2024-2025)

	I would take this class because I am interested in ...	What types of literature would I read in this class?	What are the core texts that I would read/view in this class?	What types of assignments would I expect to do in this class, and about how many of each?	About how much weekly homework would I have, and what would I be doing?	What assessments would my grade be based on, with what approximate weighting?
Honors American Literature (HAmLit)	... developing as an independent and critical thinker, reader, speaker and advanced writer; applying critical lenses to literature and other texts; reading with an emphasis on linguistic and stylistic analysis; honing oral communication skills through seminars, discussions, and speeches; taking the AP Language & Composition Exam.	American literature from 1800-present • Books: 5 • Selected short stories, non-fiction, literary criticism, films, poetry, art	<i>American Born Chinese</i> <i>The Great Gatsby</i> <i>Citizen</i> <i>Their Eyes Were Watching God</i> <i>On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Patriot Acts: ongoing research on controversial issues in American society culminating in a final speech • Rhetorical & Literary Analysis, Synthesis, Reflective Essays • Daily informal discussions and formal assessed discussions • Approx. 5+ out-of-class writing tasks, as well as various in class writing tasks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annotated close reading (30-60 pages) • Extensive analytical writing • Ongoing, student directed research 	• Mainly written work (essays, analytical paragraphs), research, and discussions, both formal and informal.
American Literature	... furthering my reading, writing, speaking and analytical skills while learning about the American experience through literature in a collaborative environment.	American literature from 1600-present • Novels: 3, Plays: 1, Graphic Novel: 1. • Selected short stories, shorter non-fiction and poetry	<i>The Great Gatsby</i> <i>Their Eyes Were Watching God</i> <i>A Raisin in the Sun</i> <i>American Born Chinese</i> <i>The Things They Carried</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analytical essays/paragraphs (at least 2) • Synthesis essay (1) • Speech (1) • Group Presentations (multiple times) • Narrative writing/Personal Statement/College essay (1) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20-30 pages reading • short writing Assignments • Ongoing work on final essays for each unit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mainly essays/papers, speeches, group presentations, and discussions. • Smaller writing assignments and quizzes.