

11th Grade American Literature—Syllabus

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Description:

This course will entail an exploration of major works in American literature. This will include the use of various genres, including novels, short stories, poetry, drama, myths, and non-fiction works. Students will interact extensively with various texts, and their reading and writing skills will be consistently monitored through rigorous formative and summative assessments. In addition to reading texts, there will also be a strong emphasis on vocabulary acquisition. The sorts of assessments that students can expect include grammar and vocabulary practice, quizzes over material learned in class, tests that build upon the most essential of this material, papers that monitor students' ability to write intelligently about texts and ideas, and group projects through which students will have the opportunity to work collaboratively with their peers. Students may also, at times, receive grades based on their active and appropriate participation in class.

Required Materials: Chromebook, writing utensil, and a notebook/composition book *to be used for this class only*.

List of potential longer texts:

- The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald
- The Crucible* by Arthur Miller
- The Catcher in the Rye* by J.D. Salinger
- 12 Angry Men* by Reginald Rose
- Pearson Common Core Literature*
- A Raisin in the Sun* by Lorraine Hansberry
- Death of a Salesman* by Arthur Miller
- Classic American Poems* by Various Authors
- The Best of Poe* by Edgar Allan Poe

Mr. Vonck's Classroom Rules/Expectations

-Respect class time.

- 1.) Be in the classroom *and in your seat* before the bell rings. (A third tardy each quarter will result in a lunch detention. Further tardies will result in an office referral.)
- 2.) Have all needed class materials each day.
- 3.) You may use the bathroom with permission, but you must use a pass. (We will be using electronic hall passes this year. Teachers are able to restrict passes depending on availability, especially if passes are being used excessively.)
- 4.) You may not use cell phones in class. Earbuds may be used with Chromebooks only during times specified by the teacher. (Devices used without permission will be sent to the office for the day. After the third infraction building-wide, students will have to leave phones in the office for the duration of each school day.)
- 5.) You may not sleep in class.
- 6.) You may not line up at the door toward the end of class.

-Respect your teacher.

- 7.) Comply with all teacher directives.
- 8.) Talk only at appropriate times.

-Respect your classmates.

- 9.) Do not insult, bully, or otherwise treat disrespectfully any of your classmates.
- 10.) Do not cheat off of or copy someone else's work.*

Where not explicitly stated, the general rule is that students will be given a verbal warning, followed by either a lunch detention or an office referral.

The grading scale is:

92.5-100= A	72.5-77.49= C
90-92.49=A-	70-72.49= C-
87.5-89.99= B+	67.5-69.99= D+
82.5-87.49= B	62.5-67.49= D
80-82.49=B-	60-62.49= D-
77.5-79.99= C+	Below 60=

*See AI policy on the next page.

AI Policy

Purpose - The purpose of this policy is to define acceptable uses of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools while upholding academic honesty in order to help students essential academic skills.

Scope - The policy applies to all students in MVHS classes and addresses the use of AI tools including language models, search engines, grammar checkers, paraphrasing tools and other AI-based software or platforms used during assignments, projects, and assessments.

Acceptable Uses - AI tools can be valuable for idea generation or planning. It is important to note that AI is vulnerable to discrimination and misinformation because it is limited to the data on which it was trained; therefore it can perpetuate biases and inaccuracies. In this way, AI is not a replacement for human critical thinking and even ideas generated must be vetted carefully.

Current iterations of AI should not be trusted to generate accurate information and it is not uncommon for AI to fabricate information or sources. Assume that the information from AI is inaccurate unless you can verify it from reputable sources.

Any use of AI must be cited correctly. MLA, APA, Chicago all have explanations for citations of AI. Text generated by an AI is not yours and must be acknowledged.

Prohibited Uses - Students are strictly prohibited from submitting AI work as their own without proper citation. Submitting AI work without acknowledgement and citation is both a form of cheating (using unauthorized tools) and a form of plagiarism (using outside work without attribution). Academic dishonesty with AI may include but is not limited to copying and pasting text, paraphrasing without attribution, and submitting work created by AI tools without acknowledgement.

Students must not use AI tools on assignments and assessments without explicit permission from the teacher. **Assume that AI is forbidden** unless you are directly told that it is allowed for an individual assignment.

Students should not manipulate, falsify or revise AI-generated work to deceive others or misrepresent work used to assess their academic abilities.

Proof of Inappropriate Use - Teachers will use a variety of tools that will detect use of AI. If a teacher believes that you have misused AI or falsified work, it will be your responsibility to prove that you have created your work. There are things you can do to make this easier, including keeping notes and outlines, saving multiple

drafts of documents, or using Google docs. If a student does use AI with permission, it may be necessary to show your work, meaning it is important that you screenshot your prompts and AI answers, and that you can explain what was generated by AI and what was generated by you, how you have used AI, and why you have used AI.

Consequences of Violations - Parents or guardians will be notified of any suspected violations of this policy. Work suspected of misusing AI will be given a zero with no chance of rewriting or resubmitting until the student is able to prove that they are the creators of the work by supplying a documented record of work.

According to the student handbook, violations of this policy will be communicated to MVHS administration and faculty. Because misuse of AI is a form of cheating and plagiarism, misuse of AI will be recorded in the form of a disciplinary referral.

I acknowledge that I have read and understood both the AI policy as well as the classroom rules and expectations.

Student Signature

Parent Signature
