

Name of Course: Alternative American Literature

Course Overview:
Alternative American Literature looks at different themes and heroes present in American Literature. Students read short stories, Novels, Drama, non-fiction essays, and poetry from a variety of time periods in American history. Students complete essays on the novel and one of the dramas.

Unit of Study	Essential Question(s)	Content/Skill/Concept	Instructional Strategies
Native American Literature	• How does literature reflect the beliefs of a culture? • What similarities are present in creation myths?	1a: Determine two or more themes or central ideas of a text and analyze their development over the course of the text, including how they interact and build on one another to produce a complex account; provide an objective summary of the text. (RL.2)(RI.2) 1b: Analyze a complex set of ideas or sequence of events and explain how specific individuals, ideas, or events interact and develop over the course of the text. (RL+RI.3) 1c: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in the text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone. (RL+RI.4; L.4,5,6)	• Group presentation on assigned native American tribe Digital versions of the stories projected on smartboard, read aloud • Relevant quotes highlighted and discussed • Note taking organizers
Puritan Literature	• How can religious Dogma effect Literature?	1a: Determine two or more themes or central ideas of a text and analyze their development over the course of the text, including how they	• Using a documentary to provide background

	How can religious dogma affect the events of History?	interact and build on one another to produce a complex account; provide an objective summary of the text. (RL.2)(RI.2) 1b: Analyze a complex set of ideas or sequence of events and explain how specific individuals, ideas, or events interact and develop over the course of the text. (RL+RI.3) 1c: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in the text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone. (RL+RI.4; L.4,5,6) 3a: Structure: Introduce a claim and counterclaims with necessary background information appropriate for intended audience, and organize supporting paragraphs to build towards a concluding section that supports the argument presented. 3b: Evidence: Develop the claim thoroughly by choosing the most relevant and appropriate evidence, concrete details and quotations. 3c: Reasoning: Use words, phrases and clauses as well as varied syntax to clarify the relationships between claims and reasons, and claims and evidence.	information for the Puritan culture and move to the U.S. - Creating visual images of John Edward's Sermon "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God" - Introduction to the Salem witch trials. - Live reading of <i>The Crucible</i> involving all class members - Use shared Google document to facilitate conferencing and feedback with each student
<i>Flowers for Algernon</i>	- Which is better-Innocence or knowledge? - What role should science play in improving the human condition?	1a: Determine two or more themes or central ideas of a text and analyze their development over the course of the text, including how they interact and build on one another to produce a complex account; provide an objective summary of the text. (RL.2)(RI.2) 1b: Analyze a complex set of ideas or sequence of events and explain how specific individuals, ideas, or events interact and develop over the course of the text. (RL+RI.3) 1c: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in the text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone. (RL+RI.4; L.4,5,6) 3a: Structure: Introduce a claim and counterclaims with necessary background	- Completion of difficult mazes - Taking and discussing a Rorschach Test - Introduction to Intelligence Quotient: - Introduction to the Garden of Eden and Tree of knowledge to explain symbolism: - Novel projected onto smartboard, read aloud, important quotes highlighted - Use shared Google document to facilitate conferencing and feedback with each student

		information appropriate for intended audience, and organize supporting paragraphs to build towards a concluding section that supports the argument presented. 3b: Evidence: Develop the claim thoroughly by choosing the most relevant and appropriate evidence, concrete details and quotations. 3c: Reasoning: Use words, phrases and clauses as well as varied syntax to clarify the relationships between claims and reasons, and claims and evidence.	
Rhetorical Devices used in famous speeches	- How can a skilled speaker or advertiser persuade an audience? - Are certain devices more effective for certain audiences?	2B: Determine an author's point of view, purpose, or rhetorical strategies in a text, analyzing how style, content and/or structure contributes to the text's meaning and its aesthetic and rhetorical impact. 2C: Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is valid and the evidence is relevant and sufficient.	- Introduction to Rhetorical Devices: Speeches projected on smartboard with term reviews; students use smartboard markers to highlight rhetorical devices:
Poetic Devices	- How can one create an image with language? - What meaning lies beyond the literal?	1d: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in the text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone. 2b: Determine an author's point of view, purpose, or rhetorical strategies in a text, analyzing how style, content and/or structure contributes to the text's meaning and its aesthetic and rhetorical impact. 4d: Acquire and use accurately a range	Introduction to Imagery: - Introduction to eight Figurative Language terms: Introduction to Haiku: Introduction to Sound devices:

		of general academic and domain-specific words and phrases sufficient for reading, writing, speaking, and listening at the college and career readiness level; demonstrate independence in gathering vocabulary knowledge when encountering an unknown term important to comprehension or expression.	
Narrative devices/The American Short Story	• What are the building blocks of all short stories? • What common themes are present in the American Short Story?	1a: Determine two or more themes or central ideas of a text and analyze their development over the course of the text, including how they interact and build on one another to produce a complex account; provide an objective summary of the text. 1b: Determine the central ideas of a text, analyze their development, and provide an objective summary. 1c: Analyze a complex set of ideas or sequence of events and explain how specific individuals, ideas, or events interact and develop over the course of the text. 2b: Determine an author's point of view, purpose, or rhetorical strategies in a text, analyzing how style, content and/or structure contributes to the text's meaning and its aesthetic and rhetorical impact.	• Review/introduction of Narrative devices: • Stories projected on smartboard, read aloud, important quotes highlighted with a focus on terminology
<i>Of Mice and Men</i>	• What responsibilities come with companionship? • Are the benefits of companionship worth the cost?	1a: Determine two or more themes or central ideas of a text and analyze their development over the course of the text, including how they interact and build on one another to produce a complex account; provide an objective summary of the text. (RL.2)(RI.2)	• Introduction to the world of John Steinbeck. • Novel is projected onto the board, read aloud, important points Highlighted

		1b: Analyze a complex set of ideas or sequence of events and explain how specific individuals, ideas, or events interact and develop over the course of the text. (RL+RI.3) 1c: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in the text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone. (RL+RI.4; L.4,5,6) 3a: Structure: Introduce a claim and counterclaims with necessary background information appropriate for intended audience, and organize supporting paragraphs to build towards a concluding section that supports the argument presented. 3b: Evidence: Develop the claim thoroughly by choosing the most relevant and appropriate evidence, concrete details and quotations. 3c: Reasoning: Use words, phrases and clauses as well as varied syntax to clarify the relationships between claims and reasons, and claims and evidence.	
<i>Death of a Salesman</i>	• What is the American Dream? • How does one find and maintain a sense of Dignity?	1a: Determine two or more themes or central ideas of a text and analyze their development over the course of the text, including how they interact and build on one another to produce a complex account; provide an objective summary of the text. (RL.2)(RI.2) 1b: Analyze a complex set of ideas or sequence of events and explain how specific individuals, ideas, or events interact and develop over the course of the text. (RL+RI.3) 1c: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in the text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone. (RL+RI.4; L.4,5,6)	• Create a top view of the set • Character introduction • Cast the play and read aloud including all members of the class