

American Literature (11th grade)

This course focuses more completely on literature and language ability through writing and reading comprehension. Students begin by learning a variety of literary terms to help them look more deeply at literature, and then they will study the literature of America, beginning with the Colonials and developing through the eras as America forged her identity into the 20th century.

Second semester, we take a quarter-length break from literature to have a short review of grammar and writing concepts before writing the research paper. The students will follow basic steps and guidelines of choosing and researching a topic, creating a basic outline, writing a rough draft, and revising that draft into a final draft, including bibliography. Students have ample opportunity for feedback along the way in the form of comments and conferences. The paper is an 8-10 page, typed, informative essay.

Vocabulary, spelling, and word usage continue every other week.

All high school students are required to do quarterly book reports on a book chosen from my book list. The book report requires plot synopsis, analysis of the theme, moral tone, and interest. The purpose of these reports is to teach students to become discerning readers of all literature, secular or otherwise.

UNITS:

1. Literary Terms
2. Colonials
 - a. William Bradford
 - b. William Byrd
 - c. Edward Taylor
 - d. Anne Bradstreet
 - e. Jonathan Edwards
 - f. Benjamin Franklin
 - g. Thomas Paine
3. Romantics
 - a. Washington Irving
 - b. William Cullen Bryant
 - c. Edgar Allan Poe
 - d. Ralph Waldo Emerson
 - e. Henry David Thoreau
 - f. Walt Whitman
 - g. Nathaniel Hawthorne
 - h. Herman Melville
4. *The Scarlet Letter*
5. Realists
 - a. Emily Dickinson
 - b. Sidney Lanier
 - c. Bret Harte
 - d. Stephen Crane
 - e. E. A. Robinson
 - f. Mark Twain
6. Research Paper
 - a. Grammar review
 - b. Bibliography cards
 - c. Note cards
 - d. Outline
 - e. Rough draft
 - f. Final draft
7. Twentieth Century
 - a. Ernest Hemingway
 - b. Eudora Welty
 - c. Robert Frost
 - d. Carl Sandburg
 - e. e. e. cummings
 - f. William Carlos Williams
 - g. Marianne Moore
 - h. Ezra Pound
 - i. H. D.
 - j. John Crowe Ransom
 - k. W. H. Auden
 - l. Wallace Stevens
 - m. Theodore Roethke
8. Modern Drama: *Our Town*

TEXTS:

Adventures in American Literature (Harcourt Brace)

Handbook of Grammar and Composition (A Beka)