

## 11<sup>th</sup> Grade English -- A Changing Country (American Literature)

Mrs. Melissa Duckworth

[mduckworth@hampton.k12.va.us](mailto:mduckworth@hampton.k12.va.us)

[mduckworth.weebly.com](http://mduckworth.weebly.com)

Welcome to 11th grade English. This class is aligned with the Virginia State 11th grade English standards and will primarily be a comprehensive examination of classic American literature.

### **Curriculum foci:**

- in-depth critical thinking and writing
- complex analysis of author intent and technique

### **Assessments:**

- individual and group
- oral and written

### **Writing/reading foci:**

- persuasive
- expository
- narrative
- informational
- technical

### **Reading foci:**

- textbook (approximately 75% of all assignments)
- supplemental materials and real world documents (approximately 25% of all assignments)

### **Instruction:**

- discussions
- readings
- lectures
- mini-lessons (grammar and mechanics)
- project-based learning

### **Chief Objectives:**

- Students will develop a confident sense of perspective regarding their own critical thought and understanding of literature.
- Students will develop proficiency in written and oral communication within a vast range of styles and mediums.
- Students will work on and develop collaborative skills en route to completing challenging and engaging group projects.
- Students will realize a genuine delight and inquisitive approach to literature.
- Students will develop as earnest, motivated, and self-directed learners.

### **Required Materials:**

- A two-inch three-ring binder
- Package of 5 dividers for binder (or you may use colored paper)
- College ruled paper
- Multiple blue or black pens
- Any novel or supplementary materials we are reading (textbooks will be available in class)
- KHS Agenda
- Supplemental (thumb/jump) drive to save all work from laptop

**Course Texts and Supplemental Materials:**

- *Elements of Literature: Essentials of American Literature Fifth Course*
- *Grammar for Writing, Level Gold* (Classroom texts only)
- Supplementary non-fiction and informational texts and individual books

**Grading Scale:**

A	93-100	C+	77-79
A	92-90	C	73-76
B+	87-89	C-	70-72
B	83-86	D	64-69
B -	80-82	F	Below 64

**Assignments will be weighted as follows:**

- Practice (20%): classwork, homework, short journal assignments
- Minor assessments (35%): quizzes, smaller assessments, notebook checks, smaller reading logs, reading responses, timed writings, reflection logs
- Major assessments (40%): formal compositions, major tests, projects, multistep activities or products, formal presentations (This category will increase to 45% during 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> nine weeks.)
- Benchmark (5%)

**Makeup Work Policy:**

- See *Students' Rights and Responsibilities Handbook* for school-board policy.
- Assignments may be made up after school on Wednesdays.

**Information regarding plagiarism and citation:**

- All submitted work will be cited following the Modern Language Association (MLA) citation/works cited guidelines, including classwork assignments.
- Students will review plagiarism during the first two weeks of school.
- Students who plagiarize or copy will receive a zero on the assignment. Subsequent plagiarism or copying events will also receive a zero and students will receive a referral for insubordination.

**Sample works cited entry for textbook:**

Hawthorne, Nathaniel. "The Minister's Black Veil." *Elements of Literature, 5<sup>th</sup> Course*. Eds.

Kylene Beers, Lee Odell. Austin: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 2007. 263-272. Print.

**Paper Heading Sample:**

Bob Smith  
9/4/13  
Green 1

Subject Verb Agreement Exercise

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read and understood the class expectations for English 11, American Literature.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student PRINTED Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent PRINTED Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

Parent contact information:

Email:

\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Best time: \_\_\_\_\_ Best time: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone (if calls are allowed): \_\_\_\_\_

Best time: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional contact information:

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Other information I should know

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