

Course Outline for:

Honors American Literature (online)

Grade Level:	11	
Assignments:	36 lessons	Credits: 10 units
Course Materials:	all online	
UC a-g Requirements:	b-English	

Course Description:

Honors American Literature exposes students to a rich assortment of American thought, progressing from Native American works to the modern age, focusing on the major writers and time periods, and including poets, playwrights, novelists and essayists. Students learn to understand authors in relation to their historical setting, gathering biographical information and writing literary essays, research papers, and personal responses. The course also includes grammar and vocabulary work.

Learning Objectives:

- Students read a variety of important American authors.
- Identify and use the literal and figurative meanings of words and understand word derivations.
- Students read and understand grade-level-appropriate material. They analyze the organizational patterns, arguments, and positions advanced.
- Students read and respond to historically or culturally significant works of literature that reflect and enhance their studies of history and social science. They conduct in-depth analyses of recurrent patterns and themes.
- Compare and contrast the presentation of a similar theme or topic across genres to explain how the selection of genre shapes the theme or topic.
- Compare works that express a universal theme and provide evidence to support the ideas expressed in each work.
- Analyze and trace an author's development of time and sequence, including the use of complex literary devices (e.g., foreshadowing, flashbacks).
- Recognize and understand the significance of various literary devices, including figurative language, imagery, allegory, and symbolism, and explain their appeal.

- Interpret and evaluate the impact of ambiguities, subtleties, contradictions, ironies, and incongruities in a text.
- Explain how voice, persona, and the choice of a narrator affect characterization and the tone, plot, and credibility of a text.
- Establish a controlling impression or coherent thesis that conveys a clear and distinctive perspective on the subject and maintain a consistent tone and focus throughout the piece of writing.

Course Outline:

Lesson 1: Native American Literature

- A) Vocabulary definitions - *The Origin of Winter and Summer* - questions
- B) *Creation of the First Indians* - questions
- C) Write your own story

Lesson 2: Native American Literature

- A) *How Coyote Stole Fire* - questions
- B) *Godasiyo the Woman Chief* - questions - definitions
- C) 3 more fables - questions
- D) Quotes - vocabulary - grammar

Lesson 3: Salem Witch Trials

- A) Jonathan Edwards - questions
- B) Witch trial transcript - questions
- C) History of trials - short story assignment - vocabulary

Lesson 4: Anne Bradstreet and William Bradford

- A) Anne Bradstreet - map of North America - questions
- B) *The Author to her Book* - questions
- C) William Bradford - *On Plymouth Plantation* - questions
- D) Grammar - vocabulary

Lesson 5: Ben Franklin and Thomas Paine

- A) Ben Franklin biography - questions
- B) *Poor Richard's Almanac* - questions
- C) Thomas Paine - *Common Sense* - questions
- D) Grammar - vocabulary

Lesson 6: Thomas Jefferson

- A) Vocabulary - Biography of John Woolman - questions
- B) Thomas Jefferson - *Declaration of Independence* - questions
- C) A Day in the Life of Thomas Jefferson - questions
- D) Grammar

Lesson 7: Washington Irving

- A) Biography - questions

- B) *Legend of Sleepy Hollow* - questions
- C) *Rip Van Winkle* - questions

Lesson 8: Last of the Mohicans

- A) James Fennimore Cooper biography - questions
- B) Chapter One - questions
- C) Grammar - vocabulary

Lesson 9: Last of the Mohicans

- A) Lewis & Clark - questions
- B) More reading from *Last of the Mohicans* - questions
- C) Grammar - vocabulary

Lesson 10: William Cullen Bryant

- A) Biographical sketch - *Thanatopsis* - questions
- B) *To A Waterfowl* - questions
- C) Vocabulary - grammar

Lesson 11: Nathaniel Hawthorne

- A) Biographical sketch - questions
- B) *Rappaccini's Daughter* - questions

Lesson 12: Review

- A) Topic choice
- B) 5 paragraph essay assignment
- C) Questions

Lesson 13: John Greenleaf Whittier

- A) Biographical sketch - questions
- B) *The Hunters of Men* - questions
- C) *The Farewell* - questions
- D) *A Sabbath Scene* - questions
- E) Vocabulary - grammar

Lesson 14: Walt Whitman

- A) Biographical sketch - questions
- B) Vocabulary - *Oh Captain! My Captain!* - questions
- C) *Leaves of Grass* - questions
- D) Vocabulary - grammar

Lesson 15: The Poetry of Emily Dickinson

- A) Biographical sketch - *I Never Saw A Moor* - questions
- B) *Hope Is A Thing With Feathers* - questions
- C) *Fame Is A Fickle Food* - questions
- D) *Success Is Counted Sweetness* - questions
- E) *Much Madness Is Divinest Sense* - questions

- F) *If You Were Coming In Fall - My Life Closed Twice Before Its Close* - questions
- G) *The Soul Selects Her Own Society - The Bustle In The House* - questions
- H) *I Heard A Fly Buzz When I Died - Because I Could Not Stop For Death* - questions

Lesson 16: Ralph Waldo Emerson and Henry David Thoreau

- A) Emerson's life and works - questions
- B) Emerson quotes - questions
- C) Biography of Thoreau - questions
- D) *Walden* - questions
- E) Vocabulary - grammar

Lesson 17: Edgar Allen Poe

- A) Biographical sketch - questions
- B) Vocabulary
- C) *The Raven* - questions

Lesson 18: Edgar Allen Poe

- A) *The Masque of the Red Death* - questions
- B) Write your own story assignment - puzzle

Lesson 19: Mark Twain

- A) Biographical sketch - *A Ghost Story* - questions
- B) Writing assignment

Lesson 20: Jack London

- A) Biographical sketch - questions
- B) Elements of the short story
- C) *War* - questions

Lesson 21: Stephen Crane

- A) Biographical sketch - questions
- B) *The Open Boat* - writing assignment

Lesson 22: The Red Badge of Courage

- A) *The Red Badge of Courage* - questions
- B) Definitions - questions

Lesson 23: The Red Badge of Courage

- A) Chapters 12-17 - questions

Lesson 24: The Red Badge of Courage

- A) Finish the novel - questions

Lesson 25: F. Scott Fitzgerald

- A) Research Fitzgerald's biography
- B) Write report on biography

C) *Bernice Bobs Her Hair*

Lesson 26: F. Scott Fitzgerald

A) Report on *Bernice Bobs Her Hair* assignment

Lesson 27: Ernest Hemingway

A) Definitions - biography - questions

B) *A Clean, Well Lighted Place* - questions

C) *The Old Man and the Sea* - questions

Lesson 28: William Faulkner

A) Biography - questions

B) *A Rose for Emily* - questions

C) Faulkner's acceptance speech - questions

Lesson 29: Flannery O'Conner

A) Biography - questions

B) *A Good Man is Hard to Find* - questions

Lesson 30: Review

A) Creative nonfiction essay assignment

B) Grammar

Lesson 31: Edgar Lee Masters

A) *The Spoon River Anthology* - questions

B) Write your own epitaph assignment

Lesson 32: The Poetry of Robert Frost

A) Definitions - biography

B) *The Road Not Taken* - questions

C) *Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening* - questions

D) *The Mending Wall* - questions

Lesson 33: E.E. Cummings

A) Biography - *Chansons Innocentes: I* - questions

B) *Buffalo Bill's* - questions

C) *The Cambridge Ladies Who Live in Furnished Souls* - questions

D) *Somewhere I Have Never Traveled, Gladly Beyond* - questions

E) *R-P-O-P-H-E-S-S-A-G-R* - questions

F) *Anyone Lives in a Pretty How Town* - questions

G) "Why Must Itself Up Every of a Park?" - questions

Lesson 34: Maya Angelou and Langston Hughes

A) Biography of Angelou - questions

B) Quotes - writing assignment

C) *The Rock Cries Out To Us Today* - questions

- D) The Harlem Renaissance - Langston Hughes - questions
- E) *Justice* - questions
- F) *Harlem Jazz Club* - questions

Lesson 35: Research Project

- A) Choose writer
- B) 2 page essay assignment

Lesson 36: John Steinbeck

- A) Biography - questions
- B) Letter to Twentieth Century Fox - questions
- C) Nobel Prize acceptance speech - questions
- D) Survey