

AMERICAN STUDIES  
GRADE 11

COURSE OVERVIEW:

This course is an integration of English 11 and U.S. History. Students spend two periods in class during the day and should expect assignments and homework equivalent to those for two separate classes. Students will explore the development of America from literary, economic and historical perspectives. They will come to understand America's unique multicultural character by exploring the links between history and the arts. Using skills from both disciplines, students will investigate, analyze, organize, and communicate their understanding of these links. Emphasis will be on synthesizing, analyzing, and evaluating rather than on merely accumulating facts.

UNITS OF INSTRUCTION:

- UNIT I - Native Americans, Colonization, and the American Revolution
- UNIT II - American Romanticism, Renaissance, and Transcendentalism
- UNIT III - The Civil War and Internal Conflict
- UNIT IV - Realism, Regionalism, and the Westward Expansion of America
- UNIT V - Progressivism, the Roaring Twenties, and the Depression
- UNIT VI - World War II and the Cold War Image of America
- UNIT VII - Vietnam, Civil Rights, and 1960s Culture
- UNIT VIII - Contemporary America

COURSE OUTCOMES:

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| 1. | Students will understand the interconnection of all parts of a society. (English Language Arts Standards 1C, 2A, 2B, 4A, 5B, 5C) (Social Studies Standards 16A, 17D, 18A, 18C)  |
| 2. | Students will understand the dynamics of how and why change occurs within a society, with an emphasis on American society. (English Language Arts Standards 1A, 1C, 2A, 2B, 3A, 3C, 4A, 4B, 5B, 5C) (Social Studies Standards 14A, 15A, 16A, 16D, 18B)          |
| 3. | Students will identify the links between historical events, philosophy, political ideas, and the arts -- art, music, and literature. (English Language Arts Standards 1B, 1C, 2A, 2B, 3B, 3C, 4A, 4B, 5A, 5B, 5C) (Social Studies Standards 16A, 16B, 16C, 18B) |
| 4. | Students will learn to use historical information to understand developments in the arts, politics, and   |

	economics with particular emphasis on literature. (English Language Arts Standards 1B, 1C, 2A, 2B, 4A, 4B, 5A, 5B, 5C) (Social Studies Standards 14B, 15A, 15C)
5.	Students will learn to use inferences from literature and the arts to understand developments in American philosophical and political ideas and society. (English Language Arts Standards 1A, 1B, 1C, 2A, 2B, 3C, 4A, 4B, 5A, 5B, 5C) (Social Studies Standards 14B, 14F, 15B, 16A, 18A)
6.	Students will develop and articulate a vision of the future of America based on their understanding of the past and present. (English Language Arts Standards 1A, 1C, 2A, 2B, 3A, 3B, 3C, 4A, 4B, 5A, 5B, 5C) (Social Studies Standards 14C)

MAJOR LEARNING EXPERIENCES TO ACHIEVE OUTCOMES:

1.	Investigate research projects which link history and literature and culminate in formal, documented papers and/or media presentation.
2.	Apply understanding of historical, philosophical, and political thought to the understanding of literature.
3.	Apply understanding of historical, philosophical, political, and literary thought to the solution of hypothetical problems, the investigation of complex questions, and the development of personal writing and/or media presentations.
4.	Demonstrate understanding and thought through a variety of assessments which tap into the eight intelligences.

ADOPTED TEXT OR PRINCIPAL MATERIALS USED:

<i>The Americans</i> . McDougall Littell, 1998.	(adopted 1998)
<i>Literature: The American Experience</i> . Englewood Cliffs: Prentice Hall, 1994.	(adopted 1995)
Literary works chose from:	
Douglass, F. <i>Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass</i> .	
Fitzgerald, F. Scott. <i>The Great Gatsby</i> .	
Gibbons, Kay. <i>Ellen Foster</i> .	
Haley, Alex. <i>The Autobiography of Malcolm X</i> .	
Hansberry, Lorraine. <i>A Raisin in the Sun</i> .	
Hemingway, Ernest. <i>A Farewell to Arms</i> .	
Miller, Arthur. <i>The Crucible</i> .	
O'Brien, Tim. <i>The Things They Carried</i> .	
Watson, Larry. <i>Montana 1948</i> .	

(05/13/03)  
 (Rev 07/01/99)  
 (Rev 04/03/98)  
 (03/13/95)