ENGLISH 3/ENGLISH 3 HONORS

CREDIT HOURS: 1.0  COURSE LENGTH: 2 Semesters

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this course students will develop knowledge of American literature through integrated educational experiences in the language arts strands. Emphasis will be on representative American literature, with its varied cultural influences, highlighting the major genres, themes, subjects, and historical influences associated with each literary period. Students will learn nonfiction reading strategies and compare and contrast elements of theme in various genres of literary works and multimedia.

The honors level course requires students to utilize higher order thinking skills such as analysis and synthesis, while completing more rigorous assignments. In addition, more emphasis is placed on research mastery and project based learning.

COURSE PREREQUISITES

English 2

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK (S) and/or MATERIALS

Title: The Princeton Review: Reading and Writing Workout for the SAT
Edition: 2nd
Author: Geoff Martz, Doug Pierce
Publisher: Princeton Review

Title: Anthology: Literature: The Human Experience, Reading and Writing
Edition: 11th
Author: Richard Abcarian, Marvin Klotz, Samuel Cohen
Publisher: Bedford/St. Martin's

Title: The Color Purple
Author: Alice Walker
UNIT OUTLINE

Unit I: Analyzing Text/Innocence and Experience/"The Color Purple"

In this unit students will explore the theme of innocence and experience through the study of "The Color Purple" and various texts. Students will learn the historical background of the novel and the regional setting through research and related texts of the period. Students will also experience dialect and different narrative styles in preparation for reading.

Unit II: "The Color Purple"/Analyzing Rhetoric and Context

In this unit students will continue their study of characterization and theme in "The Color Purple." Students will also explore the topic of colonization in Africa as an historical context for the novel by reading several perspectives in essays and poetry. Students will learn rhetorical techniques authors use to convey and persuade.

Unit III: Major Themes Love vs. Duty/ "The Great Gatsby"

In this unit students will begin their study of "The Great Gatsby." Students will focus on themes of love vs. duty through the study of related poetry and short stories. In addition, students will build background knowledge about the Lost Generation and the roaring 20's.

Unit IV: Language and Themes across Texts/"The Great Gatsby"

In this unit students will continue their study of "The Great Gatsby." Students will continue their focus on the development of major themes through characterization, psychological perspectives and cause and effect relationships. Students will read a variety of fiction and non-fiction and compare an author's tone and diction across these genres.
Unit V: Conformity vs. Rebellion/A Streetcar Named Desire

In this unit students will begin their study of A Streetcar Named Desire. The major theme of this unit is conformity vs. rebellion. Students will define and relate historical events to this theme. Students will also gain essential background knowledge on the author Tennessee Williams, Post WWII America, jazz poetry and dramatic conventions in preparation for reading.

Unit VI: The Roles of Women/A Streetcar Named Desire

In this unit students will continue their study of A Streetcar Named Desire. Students will explore the role women in the play and society as whole pre and post WWII. Students will evaluate characters’ actions through a societal lens and gain a deeper understanding of main characters.

Unit VII: Questions vs. Answers/Edgar Allan Poe

In this unit students will begin their study of Edgar Allan Poe. The thematic focus of this unit is questions vs. answers. Students will read a selection of Poe’s short stories that explore Poe’s obsession with the unknown. Students will gain valuable background knowledge of Poe’s life and make connections to their own questions and wonderings in life.

Unit VIII: Death and What We Fear/Edgar Allan Poe

In this unit students will continue their study of Edgar Allan Poe’s short stories and poetry. Students will explore the themes of death and fear prevalent in Poe’s works and his use of language and suspense to create mood, tone and imagery.