

# U.S. Literature

*Mrs. Susan Cuvelier* Room A 217

**Course Description:** This course is designed to provide the students with a background of many influential American writers. Students will read plays, novels, short stories, and poetry by American authors spanning the birth of our nation to modern day America. Students will read Romanticism, Modernism, Post-Modernism, as well as contemporary works. Various writing assignments will accompany the works studied.

**Alignment to the Iowa Core:** *Instruction, learning, and assessment are built primarily on the 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade-band expectations of the Iowa Core Reading, and Speaking and Listening Strands.*

## **IOWA CORE STANDARDS:**

### **Standard 1: Reading Strand - Literature**

Students will effectively comprehend, analyze, evaluate, and create using a diverse range of appropriately complex print materials.

### **Standard 2: Reading Strand – Informational Text**

Students will effectively comprehend, analyze, evaluate, and create using a diverse range of appropriately complex print materials.

### **Standard 3: Writing**

**Students will routinely write to learn and to communicate for a range of tasks, purposes, and audiences.**

### **Standard 4: Speaking and Listening**

Students will participate effectively in a range of rich, structured conversations, collaborations, and presentations.

### **Standard 5: Language**

Students will apply knowledge of the English language and its conventions when reading, writing, speaking and listening.

## **Assessments:**

- Study guides
- Reading and vocabulary quizzes
- Journal responses
- Projects and presentations
- Tests
- Book/Film reviews
- Various writing assignments
- Quizzes/ Unit tests/ Semester exam
- 

**Content:** Short Stories, Poetry, Novels, Drama, Film, Documentary, Speeches, Biography, Autobiography, Essays, Famous Documents

## **Instructional Strategies:**

- Small and Large group Discussions
- Socratic Circles/Debates
- Projects and Presentations/ Technologically Supported
- Research
- Creative Writing
- Literary Analysis
- Peer Sharing/Editing

**Resources:**

**Textbook: Literature and the Language Arts: The American Tradition**

**Selections include but are not limited to works from the following authors:**

*Anne Bradstreet, Jonathon Edwards, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Edgar Allan Poe, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Henry David Thoreau, Emily Dickinson, Walt Whitman, Abraham Lincoln, Kate Chopin, Robert Frost, Langston Hughes, John F. Kennedy*

**Other selections: *The Crucible, The Great Gatsby, Moby Dick, The Field of Dreams (film)***

**EXPECTATIONS:**

**Materials**

You will be responsible for bringing the following supplies to class each day: paper, pen and pencil, binder or folder, book, agenda, and completed homework.

**Late Work**

Late work will be worth half credit. For example, if an assignment is worth ten points, you will not be able to earn any more than five points. It is possible to earn less than half credit for a late assignment if the work is of poor quality.

**Make-up Work**

If you are absent, it is your responsibility to get your make-up work. Please see me before class for any handouts / assignments you may have missed. You may not do make up work for past units unless there are extenuating circumstances which you have cleared with me. *(This may change dependent on both the length of your absence and the reason you have been out of school.)*

**Tardy Policy**

Please be in your desk before the bell rings. See your agenda for the school tardy policy. This will be strictly enforced.

**Grading Scale:**

<b>A</b> 93-100%	<b>B</b> 83-86%	<b>C</b> 73-77%	<b>D</b> 63-66%
<b>A-</b> 90-92%	<b>B-</b> 80-82%	<b>C-</b> 70-72%	<b>D-</b> 60-62%
<b>B+</b> 87-89%	<b>C+</b> 77-79%	<b>D+</b> 67-69%	<b>F</b> 59%

*Enrichment Credit:*

*Enrichment points may be offered. However, all regular credit assignments for the unit must be in before you may earn extra points. This option is not given as a chance for you to “catch up” on points. These optional assignments reinforce learning through other means or opportunities.*

**Communication:**      **E-Mail:** [scuvelier@dbqschools.org](mailto:scuvelier@dbqschools.org)  
**Phone:** 552-5500 ext. 5554  
**www.senior.dbqschools.org**

***Available for help:***      *Schedule an appointment during the school day. I am also available before or after school upon appointment*