



School Year/Semester 2017-2018

Course Name	American Literature	Course Code	
School Name	Towers High School	Teacher Name	Ms. LeAnna Cooper
School Phone Number	(678)- 874-2202	Teacher Email	Leanna_M_Cooper@dekalbschoolsga.org
School Website	www.TowersHighSchool.com	Teacher Website	

Course Description:

This course is a survey of American Literature that stresses literary and cultural themes. This course includes a variety of literary genres. A thematic approach is used. There is a strong emphasis on writing, speaking, and discussion.

Curriculum Overview

The following academic concepts will be covered. **THIS IS ONLY A GUIDE AND IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.**

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW
Unit – A Gathering of Voices (Beginnings to 1750)
Unit – A Nation is Born (1750-1800)
Unit – A Growing Nation (1800-1870)
Unit – Division, Reconciliation, and Expansion: The Age of Realism (1850-1914)

BOARD-APPROVED INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

Title	Prentice Hall Literature (The American Experience)
ISBN	9780131317192
Replacement Cost	
Online book and/or resources	
Online student access code (school specific)	

GRADING SYSTEM: The DeKalb County School District believes that the most important assessment of student learning shall be conducted by the teachers as they observe and evaluate students in the context of ongoing classroom instruction. A variety of approaches, methodologies, and resources shall be used to deliver educational services and to maximize each student’s opportunity to succeed. Teachers shall evaluate student progress, report grades that represent the student’s academic achievement, and communicate official academic progress to students and parents in a timely manner through the electronic grading portal. **See Board Policy IHA.**

GRADING CATEGORIES	*GRADE PROTOCOL		
Pre-Assessments Prior to Learning (Formative Assessments) - 0% Assessments During Learning – 25% Guided, Independent, or Group Practice – 45% Summative Assessments or Assessments of Learning– 30%	A	90 – 100	~ P (pass)
	B	80 – 89	~ F (fail)
	C	71 – 79	
	D	70	
	F	Below 70	

Notes:

*English Learners (ELs) must not receive numerical or letter grades for the core content areas in elementary and middle school during their first year of language development. A grade of CS or CU must be assigned. This rule may be extended beyond the first year with approval from the EL Studies Program. English Learners must receive a grade for ESOL courses.

~Elementary schools will utilize P (pass) and F (fail) in Health/Physical Education, Music, World Languages, Visual Arts and Performing Arts.

DISTRICT EXPECTATIONS FOR SUCCESS	
STUDENT PROGRESS	Semester progress reports shall be issued four and a half, nine and thirteen and a half weeks into each semester. The progress of students shall be evaluated frequently and plans shall be generated to remediate deficiencies as they are discovered. Plans shall include appropriate interventions designed to meet the needs of the students. See Board Policy IH.
ACADEMIC INTEGRITY	Students will not engage in an act of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating, providing false information, falsifying school records, forging signatures, or using an unauthorized computer user ID or password. See the Code of Student Conduct - Student Rights and Responsibilities and Character Development Handbook.
HOMEWORK	Homework assignments should be meaningful and should be an application or adaptation of a classroom experience. Homework is at all times an extension of the teaching/learning experience. It should be considered the possession of the student and should be collected, evaluated and returned to the students. See Board Policy IHB.
MAKE-UP WORK DUE TO ABSENCES	When a student is absent because of a legal reason as defined by Georgia law or when the absence is apparently beyond the control of the student, the student shall be given an opportunity to earn grade(s) for those days absent. Make-up work must be completed within the designated time allotted. See Board Policy IHEA.
SCHOOL EXPECTATIONS FOR SUCCESS	
CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Respect yourself, the teacher & others <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Show respect for the teacher, yourself and others at all times. • Respect others' property. Avoid touching or writing on anything that does not belong to you (including desks, textbooks, teacher's belongings, walls, chalkboard, etc.). Don't expect that others will clean-up your messes. Please pick-up after yourself. • Respect yourself and the rest of us by using appropriate language and wearing appropriate clothing. • Be a kind person. 2. Put forth your best effort at all times <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always do your own best work. • Put learning ahead of getting good grades. • Put quality ahead of just getting it done. 3. Be prepared for class each day <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Come prepared with all materials necessary: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ An organized class binder containing all necessary materials and handouts ▪ Loose leaf paper, pens (blue or black), and pencils ▪ A red or purple pen for grading in class or underlining important elements in note taking ▪ Highlighters for emphasizing important text ▪ A planner to help keep you organized - the most successful students are organized. 4. Follow directions when given <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When directions are given, do your best to follow them the first time. If you are confused or have questions, ask. I would rather have you stop class to clarify than be off task while everyone else is working. 5. Pay attention, participate and ask questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage in what is going on in the classroom. If you have a question, ask it! Otherwise, I might not know until the test that you didn't understand something. There are no stupid questions,

and chances are, if you are wondering about it, someone else in the class is to. Be proactive about your learning and don't be afraid to ask for help. If you feel most comfortable waiting until after class, that is okay, too, but do keep communication open between us.

6. Preserve a positive learning environment

- Student actions that interfere with teaching or learning in the classroom will NOT be tolerated.
- Use class time to learn the content. Please do not spend your time grooming, sleeping, talking, writing notes, playing cards, listening to you iPod, text-messaging friends, or doing work for other classes.
- Minimize classroom interruptions by arriving to class on time and not leaving the classroom during instruction.

7. Take responsibility for your actions

- If you are confronted about a rule infraction, own up to it. Don't deny it, lie about it, or blame someone else.
- Take responsibility for missed assignments.
- All handbook rules will be enforced. Please read your handbook. Students that choose to break these rules, choose to have points taken away from their learning readiness grade, and face the possibility of additional consequences.

MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES

EXTRA HELP

PARENTS AS PARTNERS

PLEASE SIGN BELOW AND RETURN

I have read the syllabus.

Student Signature_____

Parent/Guardian Signature_____

Date_____

Additional information to support continued contact:

Information	Parent/Guardian
Day Time Phone Number	
Cellular Phone Number	
Home Phone Number	
Email Address	