

American Literature & Composition

Mrs. Lindsay Riley and Mr. Josh Davis

Harrison High School
2020-21

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Office Hours:

Monday, Tuesday: 2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Wednesday: 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. OR by appointment during 12:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Thursday, Friday: 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Suggested Materials: (These materials will help you be successful on a daily basis.)

- Loose-leaf, college-ruled paper
- Parallel reading texts (listed below)
- Pens (black) and pencils
- Highlighters (specifically yellow, green, orange, blue, pink, and purple)

Required Texts:

- **Grade 11 SpringBoard® English Language Arts: English III** - Students will receive their own consumable copies that will remain at home, and there is also the digital version that can be accessed on the blog using the Clever login.
- **Parallel Reading:** Novels that are required must be purchased for interactive activities.
 - **REQUIRED:** *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald

Course Description:

American Literature is a literature-based, integrated course, which focuses on the study of American Literature for the student who reads on grade level. The course follows the development of American literature, from the Colonial Period to the Twentieth Century. The texts selected are relevant and specific to their given time period. Emphasis is placed on the development of critical and analytical thinking skills through classroom instruction and composition.

Grading:

50% Major Assignments (essays, tests, projects, presentations, etc.)

30% Minor Assignments (organizers, vocabulary, etc.)

20% EOC (Georgia Milestones American Literature End of Course Assessment) *The End-of-Course Milestones Exam will be factored into each student's grade when the results arrive from the state. It is an automatic 20% (per Georgia DOE) of the student's overall grade in this course. Please note: EOC scores may be released the last days of school; please consider this while calculating your final course grade.

Percentage Conversion

A = 90-100%

B = 80-89%

C = 74-79%

D = 70-73%

F = below 69%

NOTE: In the unlikely event of a discrepancy on a student's grade, students **MUST** produce the graded assignment for any possible grade changes. Keep all your work! Grading will be reported on Synergy.

What You Can Expect from Me:

- Rigorous lessons, focused on critical thinking skills and deep analysis
- Continual monitoring of whole class, small group, and individual progress with timely feedback
- Fair treatment of all my students and consistent enforcement of campus and district policies because your safety—physical, psychological, educational, and emotional— is of the utmost importance to me

What I Expect from You:

- The ability to read accurately with insight and sophistication
- The ability to engage in intelligent discussion through active listening and constructive discourse
- The desire to learn beyond the obvious or superficial
- Self-motivation and hard work, with a desire to attain the highest personal level of scholarly achievement
- A sense of personal and social responsibility; no “hitchhiking” (relying on others) or “hunting” (discouraging/demoralizing/derailing class progress)
- A willingness to accept constructive criticism
- The patience to accept a variety of answers or unresolved questions as points of departure for further exploration
- Respect for the clock
- A solid command of the English language and writing skills—or a willingness to catch up if there is a deficiency
- Faithful adherence to the school’s safety and academic integrity codes of conduct. **Any violation of safety or academic integrity will have severe consequences as detailed in the student handbook.**

Digital Expectations

- Be on time! - Be logged in to CTLS by the start of class (or a minute or two before) to avoid missing important information. Attendance will be taken every day.
- Find a quiet space! - Avoid having people, pets, television, music, etc. in the background so that you can focus and your classmates can too. DO NOT attend class while driving. Cell phones remain OFF unless it is an emergency OR if you are using your phone to join sessions.
- Be appropriate! - Wear school-appropriate clothing. Food and drink are okay as long as it is not distracting. Be school-appropriate with your actions. Be in view of the camera. No sleeping or laying down.
- Be prepared! - Make sure your device is charged. Have all homework and classwork with you by the time class begins. Participate in class as much as possible.
- Be responsible! - Chat responsibly! No swearing. Mute yourself when someone else is speaking. Use the hand raise feature or chat feature to ask a question.
- Be respectful! - Be respectful and considerate to your teacher and classmates; everyone is at varying levels of learning and/or understanding.

Please familiarize yourself with the description of plagiarism below:

*Cheating and plagiarism are not tolerated and are treated additionally with a discipline referral. All assignments, including vocabulary, unless specifically noted differently in writing, are **INDIVIDUAL** assignments, where any collaboration with peers will be considered cheating. Henceforth, no further explicit written or verbal warning regarding plagiarism or cheating will need to be expressed about any assignment, as **ALL assignments will be graded based on this policy**. Those who provide the work as well as those who copy the work are considered to be cheating. Plagiarism is the act of using another person’s ideas and expressions in your writing without acknowledging the source. Repeating another’s words, phrases or sentences without quotation marks and proper citation is one form of plagiarism. Restating another’s “apt phrase,” argument or idea without proper citation is also plagiarism as it indicates the work is your own rather than that of the original source (MLA 8 Handbook).*

Consequences for plagiarism include receiving an F (0 points) on the assignment and a disciplinary referral to the administrators for disciplinary action. According to the Cobb County Code of Student Conduct, plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, tests, quizzes, reports, homework, term paper and thesis writing.

Classroom Procedures

Format for assignments:

All assignments must follow the MLA 8 format guidelines for font, margins, spacing, header, and heading. These guidelines will be discussed in class and a sample will be posted in the classroom and on the class blog. Points WILL be deducted from each assignment that does not follow proper MLA formatting procedure.

Handing in Assignments:

Unless specified otherwise, all assignments should be turned into **TurnItIn.com by the start of class time.**

TurnItIn.com is used to validate the authenticity of student work. MINOR assignments will not be accepted late. MAJOR assignments submitted at the end of the day will have a 10% deduction. Each subsequent day will have an additional 10% deduction, never exceeding 50%.

Make up work:

All lesson plans and assignments can be found on the class blog. If you miss class, it is YOUR responsibility to acquire an excused absence, and the admit slip must be presented within two days of the absence. The county policy will be strictly enforced. Work missed due to an unexcused absence cannot be made up unless prior arrangements have been made with the administration. Students are expected to arrange for make-up work within 3 days. A zero will go into the gradebook immediately after a missed assignment, and will remain until work is turned in. Check the blog for handouts, presentations, and any other resources to complete missing work.

American Literature Policies & Procedures Contract

Student Agreement

I have read, understand, and agree to abide by the policies & procedures, including the policy on cheating and plagiarism, for **American Literature & Composition**, taught by Lindsay Riley at Harrison High School.

Printed Student Name: _____ Class Period: _____

Student's Signature: _____

Student Email Address: _____

Parent Contact Information

In order to help all students achieve success, an open line of communication between the parent, the teacher, and the student is critical. I maintain contact with parents via email for important assignments and class activities. All emails will be addressed in blind copy to ensure privacy of your contact information. Please list below the name and email addresses you wish to be added for class contact:

(Print Name/Relationship to Student)

(Print Name/Relationship to Student)

(Email/Phone)

(Email/Phone)

Home Phone Number: _____

Parent's/Guardian's Signature: _____

Parent Agreement

I have read, understand, and agree that my student will abide by the policies & procedures, including the policy on cheating and plagiarism, for **American Literature & Composition**, taught by Lindsay Riley at Harrison High School.

(Parent/Guardian Signature)

(Date)

Parallel Readings Acknowledgement & Approval

Students will read the following anchor texts: *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller and *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald. Additional selections from our textbook and supplemental texts will be added to this list at the teacher's discretion. Parent signature indicates permission for students to read the assigned parallel readings.

(Parent/Guardian Signature)

(Date)