AMERICAN LITERATURE

SYLLABUS

Elements of Literature, Fifth Course - Holt, Rinehart, and Winston

Mr. Joseph Perrone, PHS English Department

**Emphasis is placed on reading and interpreting American literature. Students are trained to use the writing process to create essays, and guided responses. Students read four novels outside of class. Vocabulary development, style and voice are stressed as well as Standard English conventions when composing all written responses.**

**Course Content- subject to change**

Unit #1 – Puritanism- Religion, Myth and Culture 3-4 weeks

Unit #2 – The Black Experience 3-4 weeks

Unit #3 – Revolutionary Voices 3-4 weeks

Unit #4 – American Romanticism and Transcendentalism 3-4 week

Unit #5 - Civil War and Postwar Period (1850-1900) 2 weeks

Unit #6 – Modern Fiction 2 weeks

**Outside Novel Readings (Schedule TBD)**

*Anthem by Ayn Rand*

*Tuesdays with Morrie by* Mitch Albom

*Call of the Wild by Jack London*

*The Red Badge of Courage*

**Alternate Novel Choices:**

*Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck*

*Into the Wild-by John Krakauer*

**Classroom/ Course Expectations**

1. Students are expected to respect each other, the classroom environment, the instructor, and any and all visitors to the classroom.
2. Students are expected to be on time for class. After the first three tardies the student will be issued a detention and for every tardy thereafter.
3. Students are expected to be prepared for class and participate in every and all activities during the block.
4. The students are expected to respect any and all ideas, interpretations, and discussions within the course.
5. Students are expected to respect themselves and others by abiding to all classroom, school, and school district rules, procedures, and policies.
6. ***Students are expected to do their own coursework at all times. Any form of cheating- including plagiarism- will result in a zero for that particular assignment/ grade for any and ALL students involved.***

***\*\*\*Students who violate the classroom rules and expectations will be assigned appropriate discipline per the staff and student handbooks as well as PSD policy.***

**Grading Procedures:**

Grades are calculated weighted scale for each assignment type. The grading scale is as follows:

90-100= A

80- 89= B

70-79= C

60-69= D

Below 60= F

Course weighting: 1.0 weight in GPA calculations

Grades are calculated on the following percentage basis, and the grade ranges are

**Skills and Mastery 70%-** Includes tests, essays, quizzes, projects, grammar,

vocabulary

**Employability 20%-** Includes on time to class, class preparedness (having ALL

supplies and work), participation, etc.

**Homework and Classwork= 10%**

**Absences:**

A student who has an excused absence(s) will be given the number of days absent plus one to make up any missed work. Tests and announced quizzes missed due to absence are to made up the day after the student’s return unless contraindicated by a doctor’s note. Such makeups will be done before or after school at the instructor’s discretion. No tests will be made up during the class period as class time is extremely important. A student with an unexcused absence(s) will not be permitted to make up work until the unexcused absence is changed to an excused absence. School procedures require all unexcused absences to be documented with the attendance office within three days of the absence. Students who are discovered to have cut class will be given a zero on all assignments- including exams and projects- with no possibility of makeup.