

**Glendale High School: 2008-2009**  
**Ms. Andrea Kittelson, Room B217**

**Class Web Site:** [www.webstacletcourse.com](http://www.webstacletcourse.com)

**Course(s) Title:** Grade 11 American Literature

**Course Description:**

This course includes the study of classic works of American literature, the composition of various forms of writing, and the practice and application of standard writing and speaking conventions.

Additionally, this course emphasizes the importance of critical thinking and research and writing as they pertain to the school-wide focus: *All GHS students will show growth in the ability to think critically through a focus on non-fiction writing, using the following as measures: annual CST scores, quarterly grades and scores in semi-annual writing prompts.*

For the GUSD official course description, visit:  
<http://gusd.net/Internal/CourseCatalog/pdf/English.pdf>

**Course Objective:**

To meet the state content standards for Grade 11 English Language Arts in order to prepare students for success on exams such as the CAHSEE (if not thus far passed), the CST, the SAT, the ACT and others; and to ensure achievement in twelfth grade and beyond; and to facilitate a greater appreciation for the role literature plays in all aspects of modern American life.

**Typical Activities:**

- Read silently with a purpose
- Share aloud the reading
- Write in a private journal
- Do quick writes according to a prompt (usually narrative and/or descriptive)
- Share aloud the writing
- Study grammar and mechanics using a consumable workbook, handouts and other materials
- Read and discuss works of American literature – whole- and small-group – using the anthology, novels and other materials
- Write and revise essays from the following genres:
  - Persuasive
  - Descriptive
  - Narrative
  - Expository
  - Literary Response and Analysis
  - Research Report
- Test knowledge via comprehensive multiple-choice exams and in-class essays
- Participate in dramatic endeavors, including plays, speeches and presentations
- Other

**Approximate Grading Breakdown:**

- Positive Class Participation (punctuality, effort, turned-in class assignments, etc...): 25%
- Homework: 25%
- Essays: 25%
- Exams: 25%

**Textbooks:**

District-adopted anthology  
District-adopted grammar book(s)

**Supplemental Reading Materials:**

Novels and other literary works from the approved reading list:  
<http://gusd.net/publications/GUSDAppeovedLitList.pdf>

**Rules and Procedures:**

- Be **in your seat working when the bell rings**.
- **No I-pods, cell phones, calculators or other electronic devices** may be in use **or on** at any time, unless required by the instructor.
- **The instructor reserves the right to require the removal of any hoods, hats and/or scarves** that are deemed to be a distraction to the learning process.
- Because **one fourth of your grade is based on positive class participation**, truancy, lethargy, and consistent defiance, which are the antithesis of positive class participation, may negatively impact your grade. Stated another way, if you are on time and on task you are earning an easy “A.”
- Ask **on-topic questions in an appropriate way at the prescribed times** during class. If your questions are not adequately answered during class, feel free to visit Ms. Kittelson in her classroom after school, or write her a note. You may place your notes on her desk, or you may e-mail her at [akittelson@gusd.net](mailto:akittelson@gusd.net).
- Absolutely no gum, candy, food or beverages are to be consumed by students in class.
- Sharpen pencils before class and have covered sharpeners and lead available. Remember, you are partially graded on your ability to stay focused.
- Additional procedures are outlined throughout the summer in class and on the classroom Web site: [www.webstaclecoursecourse.com](http://www.webstaclecoursecourse.com)

**Plagiarism:**

The GHS policy on plagiarism will be strictly enforced. For a detailed description of the policy, visit: <http://www.glendalehigh.com/ghsconsequences.html>

**Discipline Procedures**

Please refer to the “Parent/Student Information” hand-out.

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“I understand the aforementioned and will abide by it.”

Student Name:

Student Signature:

Parent Name:

Parent Signature:

Parent Phone and E-mail: