

# American Literature & Composition

2011-2012 Webworks

Full Year Course

Grades 11 or 12 recommended

1 English Credit

## Course Tutor:

Wanda Burdick

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## Course Description:

This study of American Literature begins in the Early American Settlers period and continues through 20th Century literature and across genres. This is a whole-book literature course for the serious or college bound high school student. The reading schedule is vigorous, and students should plan to complete some of the books over the summer to lighten the reading load during the school year. Writing assignments as well as tests based on the literature studied will aid in understanding the facets of character and conflict development. Students will write a research paper with documentation, learn several forms of essays and analysis papers, and study and write poetry.

Compositions will be tied directly to the literature studied in the course in many cases, and students will analyze not only the literature itself, but also the worldview of the author as compared to a Biblical worldview. Students will be taught structural and style techniques that will aid in maturing their writing and vocabulary level.

## Course Notes:

Parents are expected to see that students have all the appropriate texts prior to the first class session. Reading assignments are due to be completed before the student arrives at class for the lecture on the assigned material. Parents will need to monitor the students' reading record sheets to ensure they are keeping up with the schedule. The student notebook must be graded by the parent for each nine-week period. This is a challenging class, and students will do a great deal of reading and writing. If a student is not willing to work hard, and the parents are unwilling to supervise his/her progress, please do not register for this course.

## CLEP EXAM:

Students may also prepare to take the CLEP American Literature exam or the Analyzing and Interpreting Literature exam and get college credit. Please check with instructor for extra study materials for this opportunity.

## Course Prerequisites:

While there are no specific prerequisites for the course, students should have completed one or more high school level English classes with composition instruction before taking this class. A strong work ethic will also be necessary. Parents and students must commit to completing assignments on time and according to the parameters set by the tutor.

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**Required Texts:**

- *American Literature: Encouraging Thoughtful Christians To Be World Changers*, Senior high level student book, by James P. Stobaugh ISBN # - 978-0-8054-5900-5
- *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, 7th Edition by Joseph Gibaldi ISBN # - 978-1-60329-024-1

*\*\*Students must have access to the works of literature used in the Stobaugh book. The tutor will provide a list of these books in early June so the student can purchase, borrow, or make arrangements with their local library to have the literature available when needed for the course.*

**Required Supplies:**

- 3" 3-ring binder
- Tab dividers (wait to set up until instructions are given on the first day of class)
- Materials for research paper will be announced in class