

2017-2018 English III/English III Honors Course Syllabus

Instructor: Ms. Taylor

Textbook: *Florida Collections*, Grade 11. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. 2015.

Hello, students and parents! Welcome to English III, a survey of American Literature. Over the course of this school year, we will be tracing the growth of American Lit from the pre-American Colonial era up to present day. We will be asking: *What is America? What did the first settlers and founding fathers envision, and how has that vision been adjusted over time? What is the American Dream? Is it real or just an idea? Where and how do I fit into this idea?* and finally, *Where are we headed?* The objective of this course is to gain a greater understanding of American Literature and to build reading comprehension, vocabulary, grammar, writing, and literary analysis skills. A few of the texts we will be studying this year are:

- “The Declaration of Independence” and portions of “The United States Constitution”
- Lincoln’s “Second Inaugural Address” and Frederick Douglass’s “What To the Slave is the Fourth of July?”
- Arthur Miller’s play *The Crucible* (as well as the movie adaptation)
- Edgar Allen Poe’s “The Pit and the Pendulum”
- Selected poems from Robert Frost and Walt Whitman
- Mark Twain’s “The Lowest Animal” (Honors only)
- Jack London’s “To Build a Fire” and Kate Chopin’s “The Story of an Hour”
- Kate Chopin’s “Desiree’s Baby” (Honors only)
- An excerpt from Upton Sinclair’s *The Jungle* and an excerpt from *Fast Food Nation*
- Poems by selected authors from the Harlem Renaissance
- F. Scott Fitzgerald’s novel *The Great Gatsby* (as well as the movie adaptation)
- “The Coming Merger of Mind and Machine” and “Science Guided by Ethics”

Methods of Assessment:

- Diagnostic: Surveys, pre-tests, freewriting
- Formative: Class discussions, Kahoot! quizzes, textbook questions, independent research, journals
- Summative: Tests, essays (informational, argumentative, and analytical), debates, visual projects

Materials: Students will need a college ruled notebook for bellringers and journal entries. They are also expected to have paper, a writing utensil, and their textbook *every day*. I would welcome donations of at least one of the following: tissues, pencils, college ruled paper, black dry erase markers, or art supplies.

Latework: To receive full credit, all assignments must be turned in when they are due at the beginning of class. For every day late, **students will lose 15% off the total grade, up to five days**. After two weeks, late work will not be accepted. Per school policy, students who have been absent have one day for each day

absent to make up latework. If a student is absent on a due date, they are expected to have the assignment ready to turn in the next day at the start of class. It is the responsibility of the student to request make-up work.

Volusia County Grading Scale:	90-100	A
	80-89	B
	70-79	C
	60-69	D
	0-59	F

Exam Policy: All teachers will administer a comprehensive end-of-course exam during the announced testing window (before Winter Break and before Summer Break) The end-of-course examination will count as a summative grade for the marking period in which the course ends. No student should be required to take more than two end-of-course examinations in one day.

Plagiarism Policy: As with all learning institutions, plagiarism is taken very seriously at Deland High School. Students caught plagiarizing or with their cell phones out during tests or exams will receive **an automatic zero and a potential referral**. We will briefly cover what is and is not plagiarism in class, but as 11th grade students, you are already expected to know the difference.

Cell Phone Policy: Occasionally, we will use cell phones as part of the daily lesson. However, **cell phones must remain in your purse/backpack/pocket and on silent mode unless you are told otherwise**.

Tardy Policy: In accordance with the school tardy policy, student will not be permitted to class after five minutes past the start of class. If a student arrives late but within that five minute window, they will be allowed in to class, but will be marked as "late" in Gradebook. After the third time being "late," parents will be contacted and disciplinary action may be taken.

Dress Code Policy: Students are to be in Dress Code at all times while on campus. Acceptable Dress Code attire may be found on the Volusia County Schools website.

Office Hours: I will be available Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:00-3:40 for tutoring, conferences, and retakes. Students may schedule additional times if necessary.

Bathroom Passes: At the start of each quarter, each student will be given four bathroom passes. These four passes are meant to last the entire quarter and should be used only for emergencies. If you need additional passes, your parent will have to contact me.

Final Grades: Per the District's Grading Guidelines, the teacher has the authority to override a student's final grades. If that becomes necessary, the student's parents will be notified.

Fighting, profanity/vulgar language, and bullying/harassment will not be tolerated and will result in parent contact and/or disciplinary action. Let's be kind, respectful, and responsible and have a great year!

This syllabus can be accessed online through <http://www.delandhs.org/>.

Please sign and return by August 31st.

I have read and understand the course syllabus for Ms. Taylor's class:

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____