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 objectives of this course are 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)
- Nathaniel Hawthorne’s “The Minister’s Black Veil” (Honors only)
- Edgar Allan Poe’s “The Pit and the Pendulum” (Honors only)
- Amy Tan’s “Mother Tongue”
- Kate Chopin’s “The Story of an Hour”
- Jack London’s “To Build a Fire”
- Pablo Neruda’s “Ode to a Large Tuna in the Market” (Honors only)
- Richard Rodriguez’s “Blaxicans and Other Reinvented Americans”
- Poems by selected authors from the Harlem Renaissance
- F. Scott Fitzgerald’s novel The Great Gatsby (as well as the movie adaptation)
- “The Coming Merging of Mind and Machine”
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 are expected to have paper and a writing utensil 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.

It is the responsibility of the student to request make-up work. Assignments will be pinned to the “While You Were Out” board in the classroom and many will be available for download in FOCUS. Come to me before or after class to get missing assignments. Latework will not be accepted after two weeks past the due date. If students wish to make up the missing assignment, they may be given an alternate assignment.

Volusia County Grading Scale:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tr>
<td>90-100</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>80-89</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>70-79</td>
<td>C</td>
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<td>60-69</td>
<td>D</td>
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<tr>
<td>0-59</td>
<td>F</td>
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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.

Academic Integrity Policy: As with all learning institutions, plagiarism is taken very seriously at Deland High School. If students are caught plagiarizing or with their cell phones out during tests or exams, parents will be contacted, students will meet with guidance for a parent/teacher conference, and/or a discipline referral may be issued. We will briefly cover what is and what is not plagiarism in class, but as 11th grade students, you are already expected to know the difference.

Cell Phone Policy: This class is a cell phone-free area. When students arrive, they are to get necessary supplies for class (paper, writing utensil, etc.) and deposit their backpacks in the Backpack Parking area. Earbuds and airpods are to be out of ears and out of sight at all times. Students worried about theft of their belongings may store items behind my desk. Occasionally, we will use cell phones for certain assignments and activities. Unless otherwise specified, cell phones must remain in your purse or backpack and on silent mode unless you are told otherwise.

Tardy Policy: In accordance with the school tardy policy, students arriving after the final bell will be marked tardy. After the third tardy, parents will be contacted. The fourth tardy will result in a discipline referral.

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 Tuesdays from 3:35-4:10 for tutoring, conferences, and retakes. The last 20 minutes of lunch are also available. Students may schedule additional times if necessary.
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.

Movies: In this class, we will be watching the movie adaptations for some of the novels and plays that we read (i.e. The Crucible and The Great Gatsby). These movies are rated PG-13. County guidelines require a parent/guardian signature for any rating other than “G.” If you permit your child to watch these adaptations, please sign the acknowledgement below. Otherwise, student may be sent to another room during these activities.

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 September 13th.

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

Parent Signature: ____________________________________ Date: __________________

Student Signature: _______________________________ Date: __________________