



## Reseda High School Police Academy Magnet Honors American Literature

Instructor: Mr. Ayala

**Class Objective:** The objective of *Police Academy, Honors American Literature* is to explore the various genres of writing from the 15th Century to the present so that the students gain an appreciation of the great American writers, as well as an understanding of how their works correlate to history and the laws of the period. The focus will be on various forms of literature such as: poetry, fiction prose, nonfiction prose and drama. Critical thinking, comprehension, and inference are necessary tools in this process (Bloom's Taxonomy will be applied). Along with an emphasis on reading, students will be asked to respond to literature through various *law enforcement* perspectives and various types of writing assignments. Vocabulary enhancement, grammar, usage and mechanics will also be applied.

### Unit One – Beginning- 1750

Time period notes/writing prompt

Indian Literature and Tradition (sun dances)

- *The Modoc, Onandaga, Navajo, & Iriqouis Legends*
- *from A Journey Through Texas* – Alvar Nunez Cabeza de Vaca
- *from Journal of the First Voyage to America* – Christopher Columbus
- *from Of Plymouth Plantation* – William Bradford
- *To My Dear and Loving Husband*-Anne Bradstreet (poem)
- *Huswifery* – Edward Taylor
- *from The Interesting Narrative of The Life... - Olaudah Equiano*
  - *The First American Police Department & Police Chief*

### Unit Two – A Nation is Born -1750-1800

Time period Notes/Writing prompt

- *The Autobiography & -Benjamin Franklin*
- *Speech to the Virginia Convention*- Patrick Henry
- *The Declaration of Independence*- Thomas Jefferson
  - *Declaration project*
- *From Roots*- Alex Haley
  - *Law Enforcement and Civil Rights*

### Unit Three- A Growing Nation- 1800-1870

Time period Notes/Writing prompt

- *The Devil and Tom Walker*- Washington Irving
- *Psalm of Life & The Tide rises, the Tide Falls*- Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
- *The Fall of the House of Usher*- Edgar Allen Poe

- *The Raven*- Edgar Allen Poe (Poem), *Annabel Lee*
- *The Minister's Black Veil*- Nathaniel Hawthorne
- *From Walden*- Henry Davis Thoreau
- *From Nature*- Ralph Waldo Emerson
- *From Self-Reliance* - Ralph Waldo Emerson
- *I hear America Singing & Song of Myself* -Walt Whitman
- *I Too*- Langston Hughes, Angela de Hoyas poem (In response...)
- *The Soul Selects Her Own Society, Because I could not Stop For Death, I heard A fly Buzz* - Emily Dickinson
  - *Minorities in Law Enforcement*

#### **Unit Four- Division, Reconciliation, & Expansion 18850-1914**

##### Time Period Notes/Writing Prompt

- *from My Bondage and Freedom* -Frederick Douglas
- *Swing Low, Sweet Chariot (spiritual)*
- *The Gettysburg Address*- Abraham Lincoln
- *Emancipation Proclamation*- Abraham Lincoln
- *From Life on the Mississippi* – Mark Twain
  - *Mark Twain Biography*
- *Story of an Hour*– Kate Chopin
  - *The Necklace (video)*
- *Luke Havergal, Richard Cory* – Edwin Arlington Robinson
  - *The Expansion of Police Departments Across The Nation*

#### **Unit Five – Disillusion, Defiance, & Discontent – 1914-1946**

##### Time Period Notes/Writing Prompt

- *The River Merchant's Wife*- Ezra Pound (poem)
- *Old Age Sticks*- E.E Cummings
- *Chicago* – Carl Sandburg
- *The Jilting of Granny Weatherall* – Katherine Anne Porter
- *Birches, Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening, Mending Wall* – Robert Frost

#### **Unit Six- Prosperity & Protest 1946-Present**

##### Time Period Notes/Writing Prompt

- *The Life You Save May Be Your Own*- Flannery O'Connor
- *From The Woman Warrior* – Maxine Hong Kingston
- *Traveling Through The Dark* – William Stafford
- *Most Satisfied by Snow* - Simon Ortiz
- *from Hiroshima*-John Hershey
- *Mirror*- Sylvia Plath
  - *The History of American Gangs*

#### **The Crucible (Play)- Arthur Miller**

- The Red Scare- historical background
- Salem Witch Trials (video)
- Play

Final Exam: Essay and final exam on The Crucible

- *Law enforcement and the Judicial Process*

### **Grading Policy:**

All assignments are given a points value. Your grade is based on your total number of points as a percentage of the total points possible. The final exam is mandatory.

**A>90% ; B>80% ; C>70% ; D>60% ; F<60%**

### **Assignment Types**

\*Oral Presentations \*Projects \*Laboratory Reports \*Exams \*Quizzes  
\*Reading \*Research Reports \*Homework \*Written Practice

### **Homework Policy**

Homework is assigned on a regular basis. You should expect to have either written homework or reading homework.

All student work must be that of the individual student. CHEATING of any type will not be tolerated. This applies to ANY and ALL assignments. Any incidence of cheating will result in parent conferencing, a zero on the assignment (for all students(s) involved) and a “U” in both work habits and cooperation on the 5, 10, 15 and 20 week report cards.

### **Reseda High School ESLRS**

In *Honors American Composition*, students will have a variety of assignments, assigned individually or by group. They will be expected to use Bloom’s Taxonomy to develop their higher level thinking skills. This will help promote Reseda’s ESLR’s:

\*Effective Communicators \*Critical Thinkers \*Self-Directed Learners\*Responsible Citizens\*Healthy Individuals

### **Late Work/Absences:**

As per District policy, students absent from class for medical reasons will be able to make up work within a reasonable amount of time upon their return; however, indolence is not a recognized medical condition and will not be an adequate excuse for late work. If you are having difficulty completing work, and you let me know *before* the due date, I will be happy to accommodate your legitimate needs. No make-up work will be accepted two weeks before the end of the semester without a parent conference.

### **Student Responsibilities:**

1. All work not completed as class work must be typed. MLA format is the standard for essays. Homework must be on white, 8.5x11” paper using Times New Roman 12 pt. font. The title of the assignment must contain specific information detailing the assignment.

2. You are responsible for your data and the ability to use current technology with sufficient skill to complete your assignments. Software problems, hardware problems, power outages and seemingly random acts of nature are not sufficient excuses for inferior academic quality.