



# American Literature & Composition /Honors American Literature & Composition 2024-2025

**Instructor:**

Ms. Burke & Ms. Powell

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Room#212

**Course Description and Objectives:**

In American Literature and Composition, students will be introduced to chronologically exploring various text throughout the development of The United States of America. This course will build off of the students' previous knowledge of themes and genres and add in the historical background, time periods, and impact literature had on the people. Our program is driven by a prescribed curriculum developed by educators from Richmond County in accordance with the Georgia Standards of Excellence. Our units of study will focus a few target standards while mastering standards previously learned in 9<sup>th</sup> grade. Each unit of study will allow students to apply their skills to various text structures, cultures, ethnicities, and literary genres (see below)

**Textbook:**

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt (HMH) *Into Literature: American Lit* (consumable book, online platform accessed through Launchpad)

**Unit/Concept Names:**

Unit 1: Central Ideas/Time Period: Native Americans, Puritans, & Colonial Period

Unit 2: Development of Character & Ideas/Time Period: Colonial Period & Birth of a Nation

Unit 3: Author's Choices/Time Period: Revolutionary Period

Unit 4: Development of Character & Ideas/Time Period: Fireside Poets, Romanticism, & Dark Romanticism

Unit 5: Point of View/Time Period: Transcendentalism, Civil War, & Regionalism

Unit 6: Text Analysis/Time Period: Modernism, Post Modernism, & Contemporary



### **Evaluation (Schoolwide Grading Policy):**

- *Minor Grades* = 60% (quizzes, labs, and graded assignments to assess certain standards in a unit of study)
- *Major Grades* = 40% (unit tests, essays, research papers, project-based assignments, and culminating assessments to measure mastery of standards that comprise a unit of study)

### **Classroom Procedures & Expectations:**

The overarching expectation in this class is creating a positive learning environment where all students feel safe and have equitable opportunities to show their knowledge, master the standards, and take ownership of their learning experience. Remember, at Laney, we **R.O.A.R.!**

1. **Responsible** – Each student is responsible for completing their own work, cleaning up their own area, and
2. **On Time and Prepared** – Each student should come to class each day on time and prepared with the listed materials to be success in each unit of study. It is not enough to show up! You must put in the work and daily grind to master each concept.
3. **Accepting of Self & Others** – Each student should be a part of the positive learning environment by encouraging their peers, but also accepting various opinions, methods, and processes.
4. **Respectful** – Each student should approach each situation with respect, an open mind, and understanding before jumping to conclusions or judgments.
5. Each student should develop a growth mindset and use each day as a learning experience with an opportunity to show what they know, what they still need to learn, and what they can do to improve on those skills necessary for a successful year. **Progress over Perfection!**
6. Adhere to all policies, rules, and regulations outlined in the student handbook.

### **Course Materials:**

- ✓ \*Laptop and charger
- ✓ 3” 3-ring Binder
- ✓ Highlighters
- ✓ Loose Leaf Paper
- ✓ Pencils/Pens
- ✓ 1 Package of Dividers (5 Total)
- ✓ Agenda/Planner

### **Modes of Communication:**

**\*Remind:** American Lit & Honors (@2324ame)

**\*Infinite Campus:** shout points, email blasts, and grades

**\*Canvas:** announcements, inbox, grades, and comment feedback