



# American Literature Syllabus 2020-2021

Glenn Hills High School  
Fall/Spring 2021-2022 School Year  
Ms. T. LeBrane

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Office Hours: Monday-Friday 7:00am-3:00pm

Tutoring: Wednesday 2:30pm (by sign up only)

My name is Ms. LeBrane. I am from San Francisco California. I received my master's degree from University of Phoenix. My class motto is: "If you stay ready, you will not have to get ready" and "Team work makes the dream work". I am happy to have you in my class and we are going to have a spectacular year.

We will be using the Pearson Series for our Literature textbook. We will also use several online resources.

English is a course or individual class in the study of world literature, language, or composition. We will interpret, analyze, synthesize, and evaluate different writers, cultures, and compositions. The goal is always 80 percent or better in all things related to learning.

## Course Description

Georgia adopted the Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE) which require that students gain, evaluate, and present increasingly complex information, ideas and evidence through listening and speaking as well as through media. The standards recognize that students must be able to use formal English in their writing and speaking but that they must also be able to make informed, skillful choices among the many ways to express themselves through language. It is important to note the impact of the standards on classroom instruction: building knowledge through content-rich nonfiction; reading, writing and speaking grounded in evidence from the text, both literary and informational; and regular practice with complex text and its academic language.

### ○ Course goals

- 80% mastery on all assessments! All class objectives align to Georgia and national standards. Therefore, learning will directly relate to Georgia Milestone, SAT, and college success.
- Students will learn to think critically and engage with respect.

### ○ Course content and time schedule

#### First Semester

- Review Unit – I will assess students to determine where they are. – 6 days
- Unit 1 – *Perspective of Early America/ Writing Focus: Narrative*-27 days
- Unit 2 – *Perspectives of Freedom and Revolution/ Writing Focus: Informative* -26 days

#### Second Semester

- Unit 3 – *Nature. Individualism and Supernatural/ Writing Focus: Argumentative* -24 days
- Unit 4- *American Dream/ Writing Focus: Choice (we will review the previous writings)*-25days
- Unit Review- 30 days

## Major objectives for students:

- To stimulate interest in students English.
- To provide educational experience through participation in class.



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- To give recognition to students for work they have done.
- To give students an opportunity to interact with peers.

### Student's responsibilities:

- **KEEP ALL YOUR WORK!**
- Bring materials to class every day. I will not loan you materials due to COVID.
- Materials include: Loose-leaf paper, black or blue ball point pens (no abstract colors), pencils, textbook, dividers, highlighters, flash drive.
- Notebook binder includes the following sections: Bell Ringers, Journal Entries/Quick Writes, Homework, and Notes.

### Notebook Guidelines:

- need a 3-ring binder and dividers. You will find this more flexible than a spiral notebook when you need to rearrange papers.
- Label dividers to separate your notebook into sections: Four Section Notebook (Required)
  - **Bell Ringers**-At the beginning of each class students will have 5-7 minutes to complete bell ringers.
  - **Journal Entries/Quick Writes**-Students are required to respond to a prompt by restating the question that illustrates understanding of the prompt. Sentence structure, grammar, and mechanics should reflect mastery. All journal entries should be half a page or longer.
  - **Homework**-Students will be given homework at least twice a week. Homework should be placed in this section of their notebook.
  - **Notes**-(Study every 24 hours, for 10 mins, every 7 days)-Students will write down any information whether a list, summaries, graphic organizer, worksheets, models, examples, student responses, lectures, or illustrations, that will aid in the educational process.
- Keep the syllabus in the front of the English section of your notebook with class assignment sheet.
- Notebooks will be checked periodically. Make sure your notebook is complete and well organized! A well-organized notebook will assist you in preparing for assessments as well as exams. In some cases students may be allowed to use their notes on assessments, so it is important that notes are well organized and up to date.
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### Textbooks:

If textbook is lost, it is the student's responsibility to pay for it before another book is assigned.

**Students may NOT leave their textbook in the classroom.** Books are assigned at the beginning of the year by number, not by name. Students are to bring their textbook to class every day and are not permitted to leave class to get their book.



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### Homework (NO LATE WORK!)

Homework is an opportunity for the students to demonstrate mastery of a required skill or standard. Homework is an informal way to assess whether a student has grasped the skills necessary in order to move forward.

1. Students will be given homework each night. This work requires written assignments and/or mastery of notes. Notes should be mastered each night, for while unit tests are announced in advance, quizzes are not.
2. Written assignments must be complete. The excuse, “I did not do my homework because I did not understand it.” is not valid. No assignment will be given without a thorough explanation and an opportunity to ask questions. Therefore, efforts should be in evidence that the student has attempted the assignment even though mistakes may be made.
3. Homework is considered late if it is not turned in when requested upon entering the classroom. Students should keep a record of assignments in the front of their notebooks and are responsible for recording assignment changes. Absence does NOT excuse students from knowing assignments.

### Work Expectations:

All work is to be headed using MLA format. That is as follows:

First and Last name  
Teacher’s Last Name  
Class Period/Title of Assignment  
Date assignment is due

### Attendance:

- Attendance in class is always required.
- No make-up work will be given or taken during the last two weeks of the quarter.
- The teacher will deal with tardiness on an individual basis (standing time, writing assignments, or detentions).
- Excessive absences will receive a phone call home with an attendance referral (See Code of Conduct).

### The three most important rules:

- **Be Nice.**
- **Work Hard.**
- **Be Respectful**

### Classroom Rules and Expectations:

- Technology is only to be used for classwork when permitted by Ms. LeBrane.
- Observe the school dress code.



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- Leave food or drink to outside of class.
- Use restroom before you come to class. You will not be permitted to leave class to use the restroom unless it is an emergency.
- Be in your assigned seat when the bell rings.
- Bring all required materials to class every day.
- Any work turned in should be headed properly.
- Do not talk at inappropriate times.
- Be respectful to others.
- Stay in your seat until I dismiss you.
- When absent, bring your excuse note and come after school for your work.

All rules will be enforced daily. Due to COVID it is important that students follow rules.

### **Hand Raising Expectations:**

Students are NOT to get up and move around the classroom unless given permission by Ms. LeBrane.

Students will follow the below expectations for hand raising in class. Disrupting class for any reason will not be tolerated.

- Urgent-**Raise 1 Finger (pointer)**
- Tissue-**Raise 2 Fingers**
- Bathroom-**Raise 3 Fingers**
- Help-**Student will raise hand and wait quietly**

### **Discipline/Attitude:**

- Verbal warning
- Verbal warning and phone call home
- After-school detention (phone call)
- Office referral with recommended in-house or home suspension with conference
- Severe clause: fighting, vandalism, open defiance, profanity, or disruption will result in office referral with suspension recommendation. See: Student Code of Conduct

### **Major Grades**

1. Tests will be given for all major units of study and will be considered major grades.
2. Quizzes will be given at the teacher's discretion and will not be given the same weight as a major test. A quiz will cover a small amount of material and should take no more than 20-25 minutes to complete.
3. Final papers include: a rough draft and revision. Final draft. Rough draft (handwritten). Revision.

**PLAGIARISM/ CHEATING:** Please refer to student handbook. \*\*\*Engaging in plagiarism and/or cheating is just a bad idea. Remember, when you choose the behavior, you also choose the consequence\*\*\*



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All rules and regulations outlined in the RCBOE County Uniform Code of Student Conduct are expected to be followed.

### **Grading Procedures:**

**40% Summative**

**30% Formative**

**20% Classwork**

**10% Homework**

In danger of failing does not mean that your child has failed, it means that your child may have a “C” or lower in my class. It may also refer to unexcused absences that will cause students to receive a lower grade on the work completed.

### **Extra Help:**

Tutoring will be held on Wednesday from 2:30-3:00. If your child needs tutoring please send a note letting me know and I will set up a start date.

To the Parents: Please review the class syllabus and attendance policy with your student. I do look forward to a very productive year and encourage you as parents to become involved in any way possible with your student’s learning experiences. You are welcome to visit my classes at any time. If you need to get in touch with me for any reason, the school number is (706) 796-4924. You are welcome to leave a message with the main office. If you choose to visit the class, please sign in with the main office for clearance, conferences will be arranged by appointment.

### **Absence Policy**

You will be expected to follow these procedures in the event of an absence. Your foremost responsibility is to see me the first day you are back in school. You should contact me before class or after school to discuss making up missed work. We may also schedule extra help sessions to bring you up to present.

Specific guidelines for absences are listed below:

Missing a class

- Remind Class Code: \_ <https://remind.com/join/tlebra> \_\_\_\_\_
- Get the notes from a responsible classmate.
- Find out if any worksheets, handouts, or assignments that were given during your absence.



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- Be sure you make up the homework that was assigned for the class periods you missed. For an excused absence student are allotted 5 school days to complete and turn in the missing assignment for a grade without penalty.

### Missing a test or a quiz

- When you see me the first day back from your absence, we will mutually agree on a time when the test or quiz will be taken. \*Remember that if you come to school late and therefore miss a test or quiz, you are responsible for making it up.
- Being absent the day before a test or quiz does not excuse you from the test or quiz, under usual circumstances.

Students shall be expected to make all classwork and tests for the days on which they are absent (excused/unexcused); and for the days that they are absent where the absence is unexcused, the grade earned will be lowered.

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----- Please detach this part and fill it out (this is a QUIZ Grade). Keep your syllabus in your notebook.

I understand the expectations of this course and will adhere to them to the best of my abilities, and will seek help when needed:

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

I understand the expectations of this course and will make sure my student is consistently prepared with materials and is doing their homework each night. I certify that the number(s) I provide you are in working order and that if I change numbers, I will provide you with a new working number immediately.

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent phone number(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Best time to call \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*Parents, please remember that you are able to stay up to date with our student's grades and attendance by logging into Infinite Campus, contact the guidance department for login information if you do not have access already. Also, if you are interested in viewing the resources available and upcoming assignments for our student via Edmodo. I will email you at a future time. Requesting a parent code? \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

Looking forward to a great year!