**Fall 2015 Course Outline: American Lit. 1(p) & British Lit. 1(p)**

**Instructor: Andrea Franco**

[**afranco@learningchoice.org**](mailto:afranco@learningchoice.org)

**951-676-4200 ext. 158**

**Website:** [**http://mrsfrancotm.weebly.com/**](http://mrsfrancotm.weebly.com/)

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| **Description:** American and British Literature are courses designed to continue the preparation for a career and/or college. Students read novels, dramas, short stories, poetry, and nonfiction works in order to learn to analyze and compare writings in terms of theme, historical influence, and literary devices employed. They will expand their vocabulary through the study of word roots, develop listening and speaking skills, and learn to write effectively and coherently. Students will produce a variety of writings including book reviews and journals, speeches, creative pieces, autobiographical, expository, analytic, reflective, persuasive, cause and effect, compare and contrast, and research-based essays.  **Overview:** There are four basic components to this course: Literature reading and analysis, rigorous non-fiction and rhetorical pieces, a variety of writing assignments, and vocabulary development. *This is a one-year, 10 credit course.*  **Attendance:** Weekly and punctual attendance is expected and necessary for your success. | |
| **Vocabulary:** The vocabulary requirement will be met through the completion of assignments and assessments embedded in the reading and analysis of fiction and non-fiction*.* Students will expand their vocabulary through content-based exercises and applications. | |
| **Literature Reading and Analysis –**  1) Short stories – Every learning period, you will read, annotate, discuss and explore several pieces of fiction in-class and at home.  2) Non-fiction selections – Every learning period, you will read and analyze complex non-fiction texts, both in class and as at-home assignments. ***For full credit, please answer thoroughly and in complete sentences***  3) Novel Reading – Each semester, you will be reading two selected novels in their totality (Collections of poems are also fine). Novel Reading guidelines are as follows:   * The student will complete all reading and assignments through a self-guided literature review. * The student will complete both in-class and at home reading and assignments from the selected novel. * The student will actively participate in discussions in class.   **Materials Need for Class:**   1. 1 ½ inch binder 2. Notebook paper 3. Pencil 4. Highlighter 5. Notebook dividers 6. Self-Guided Literature novel | **Writing Assignments –**  Every learning period, you will be assigned writing projects and essays that are varied in format. These need to be typed and should reflect your very best efforts. Rubrics will be provided so that you will know how your writing assignment will be evaluated. Where possible, model samples will also be provided. For the Spring Semester, we will focus on the following:   1. Genre-based writing (Narrative, Description, Persuasive, Poetry, and Research). 2. Literary writing activities based on novel reading. |
| **Final Exam –**  Students are required to complete a final essay each semester, which is 20% of their overall grade. |
| **Approximate Weighting of Assignments & Assessments**  Reading and Responses to Lit 30%  Writing Assignments 25%  Vocabulary Assignments 10%  Participation/Attendance 15%  Semester Final 20%  **Please note:**   * All assignments will be due the following class session unless otherwise noted. * Grades will be regularly posted and updated on Engrade. |

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