

Syllabus

English 11A

Course Overview

English is the study of the creation and analysis of literature written in the English language. In English 11A you will study a variety of techniques to improve your reading comprehension and writing skills. The instruction covers many types of writing: creative, descriptive, expository, narrative, and persuasive. In English 11A, you will read and analyze different genres in literature with an emphasis on American literary movements over time. You will also complete writing activities to evaluate literary works with regard to literary techniques, form, and theme.

Course Goals

By the end of this course, you will be able to do the following:

- Recognize different perspectives of the American identity in literature.
- Analyze the historical and cultural significance of literature from the Revolutionary period.
- Analyze seminal American texts from the Revolutionary period.
- Identify and examine literary techniques used in romantic literature.
- Identify and examine characteristics of theme and form in early American poetry.
- Analyze the emergence and thematic elements of gothic literature.
- Examine the historical and cultural significance of transcendentalist literature.
- Evaluate the characteristics and common themes of slave narratives.
- Evaluate the emergence of the realist period and its literature.
- Analyze how authors use complex characters and other literary elements for effect in realist literature.
- Analyze elements of form and theme in nineteenth-century poetry.
- Evaluate naturalist literature and analyze elements of structure and purpose in writing.

General Skills

To participate in this course, you should be able to do the following:

- Complete basic operations with word processing software, such as Microsoft Word or Google Docs.
- Complete basic operations with presentation software, such as Microsoft PowerPoint or Google Docs presentation.
- Perform online research using various search engines and library databases.
- Communicate through email and participate in discussion boards.

For a complete list of general skills that are required for participation in online courses, refer to the Prerequisites section of the Plato Student Orientation document, found at the beginning of this course.

Credit Value

English 11A is a 0.5-credit course.

Course Materials

- Notebook
- Pencils or ink pens
- Computer with Internet connection and speakers or headphones
- Microsoft Word or equivalent
- Microsoft PowerPoint or equivalent
- Some course readings may require a visit to your school library or public library.

Course Pacing Guide

This section provides a brief summary of the units in this semester-long course. The semester is divided into six units spread across 90 days. The pacing guide provides a general timeline for completing each unit. It is designed to fit your class schedule and is adjustable. The guide is based on a typical 180-day school year with 90 days per semester.

Unit 1: American Literature Through the Eighteenth Century

Summary

This unit focuses on the foundations and development of American literature through the eighteenth century. You will begin by reading and analyzing early American literary texts, such as accounts by the first European settlers and the oral storytelling traditions of the American Indians. The unit then provides different perspectives of the significant events in America’s early history through the literature and poetry of the American Revolution era. At the end of the unit, you will read and analyze seminal US documents such as the Declaration of Independence and the US Constitution.

Day	Activity/Objective	Type
1 day: 1	Syllabus and Plato Student Orientation <i>Review the Plato Student Orientation and Course Syllabus at the beginning of this course.</i>	Course Orientation

4 days: 2-5	Perspectives in American Literature <i>Recognize different perspectives of the American identity in literature.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 6-9	The American Indian Voice <i>Identify the characteristics of American Indian stories from early American history.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 10-13	Colonial Literature <i>Analyze the historical and cultural significance of literature from the Colonial period.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 14-17	Poetry in the Age of Reason <i>Evaluate the emergence of the Revolutionary period in America, and analyze the poetry of that era.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 18-21	Literature and the American Revolution <i>Analyze the historical and cultural significance of literature from the Revolutionary period.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 22-25	The Voice of a New Nation <i>Analyze seminal American texts from the Revolutionary period.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 26-29	Unit Activity and Discussion—Unit 1	Unit Activity/ Discussion
1 day: 30	Posttest—Unit 1	Assessment

Unit 2: The Early and Mid-Nineteenth Century: Romanticism

Summary

This unit focuses on some of the most influential literary movements in American history. It begins with an introduction to romanticism and analysis of works from the romantic era. This unit will help you understand, recognize, and analyze the use of literary techniques such as allusion, irony, and allegory in romantic literature. Next, you'll examine theme and form in the poetry of the early and mid-nineteenth century. You will explore the thematic elements in gothic literature and the historical significance of transcendentalist literature. The unit concludes with an introduction to slave narratives and an analysis of their common themes.

Day	Activity/Objective	Type
4 days: 31-34	The Beginnings of Romanticism <i>Evaluate the emergence of the romantic period and its literature.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 35-38	Elements of Romantic Literature <i>Identify and examine literary techniques used in romantic literature.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 39-42	Theme and Form in Early American Poetry <i>Identify and examine characteristics of theme and form in early American poetry.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 43-46	American Gothic Literature <i>Analyze the emergence and thematic elements of gothic literature.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 47-50	Transcendentalism <i>Examine the historical and cultural significance of transcendentalist literature.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 51-54	Slavery and American Literature <i>Evaluate the characteristics and common themes in slave narratives.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 55-58	Unit Activity and Discussion—Unit 2	Unit Activity/ Discussion
3 days: 59-61	Course Activity <i>Discussing the Impact of Historical Events</i>	Course Activity
1 day: 62	Posttest—Unit 2	Assessment

Unit 3: The Late Nineteenth Century: Realism and Naturalism

Summary

This unit begins with the emergence of American realist literature. You will examine how realist authors use complex characters, unreliable narrators, and other literary techniques in their works. You will explore nineteenth-century American poetry and analyze its forms and themes. Finally, you will study American naturalism, including the structure and purpose common in naturalist works. In the Unit Activity, you will read and analyze the novel [Ethan Frome](#) by Edith Wharton. It is recommended that you begin reading this novel before the Unit Activity is assigned. The reading time is not built into the pacing for this unit.

Day	Activity/Objective	Type
3 days: 63-65	American Realism <i>Evaluate the emergence of the realist period and its literature.</i>	Lesson
3 days: 66-68	Complex Characters in Realism <i>Analyze how authors use complex characters and other literary elements for effect in realist literature.</i>	Lesson
3 days: 69-71	Unreliable Narrators in Realism <i>Evaluate how authors use unreliable narrators and other literary techniques for effect in realist literature.</i>	Lesson
3 days: 72-74	Humor in American Realism <i>Identify and analyze characteristics of satire and humor in realist literature.</i>	Lesson
3 days: 75-77	Nineteenth-Century American Poetry <i>Analyze elements of form and theme in nineteenth-century poetry.</i>	Lesson
3 days: 78-80	American Naturalism <i>Examine the emergence of the naturalist period and its literature.</i>	Lesson
3 days: 81-83	Naturalism and Society <i>Evaluate naturalist literature and analyze elements of structure and purpose in writing.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 84-87	Unit Activity and Discussion—Unit 3	Unit Activity/ Discussion

1 day: 88	Posttest—Unit 3	Assessment
1 day: 89	End of Semester Review	
1 day: 90	End of Semester Test	Assessment