



2012 Curriculum Catalog

American Literature

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We are excited that you are including Ignitia® as part of your program of instruction, and we look forward to serving you and your students.

Ignitia comes complete with a full, multimedia-rich curriculum for grades 3-12 in five core subjects and electives.

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Glynlyon Curriculum Development Team

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Course Overview

American Literature is a five-unit elective that engages high school students in a literary conversation with some of the most colorful and influential minds in American history. Their words will give students a greater understanding of themselves, their culture, and the ideas of others. The course teaches students the various movements in American literature, starting with the roots of American literature in writings from the Puritans. The course concludes with works by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and other black writers who were part of the struggle for racial freedom during the civil rights era.

Through this course, students will do the following:

- Recognize the religious beliefs of selected founding fathers, as evidenced in their writings.
- Identify the birth of a distinctively American literature.
- Recognize the impact of slavery on individuals and society.
- Understand and identify the influence of modernism upon religion and the arts.
- Recognize the dominant themes and techniques used in literature at the end of the twentieth century.

Additional Resources

In addition to the default course program, American Literature includes extra alternate lessons, projects, and tests for use in enhancing instruction or addressing individual needs.

UNIT 1: EARLY AMERICAN LITERATURE 1600-1800	
Assignment Titles	
1. Course Overview	14. Jonathan Edwards
2. Introduction: The Puritans	15. Benjamin Franklin
3. John Smith	16. Essay: Authors' Views of Mankind
4. William Bradford	17. Thomas Paine
5. John Winthrop	18. Thomas Jefferson
6. Quiz 1: The Puritans	19. Michel-Guillaume Jean de Crevecoeur
7. The Colonists: Mary Rowlandson	20. Essay: Biblical Imagery and References
8. Anne Bradstreet	21. Quiz 3: Days of Change and Revolution
9. Essay: Comparing Authors' Views	22. Special Project
10. Edward Taylor	23. Test: Early American Literature
11. Samuel Sewall	24. Alternate Test: Early American Literature
12. Quiz 2: The Colonists	25. Reference
13. Days of Change and Revolution 1700-1800	

UNIT 2: THE ROMANTIC PERIOD 1800-1855	
Assignment Titles	
1. A New Nation 1800-1840: Introduction	13. Quiz 2: The Fireside Poets and Transcendentalists
2. Washington Irving	14. The Voices of Despair: Edgar Allen Poe
3. James Fenimore Cooper	15. The Voices of Despair: Nathaniel Hawthorne
4. William Cullen Bryant	16. The Voices of Despair: Herman Melville
5. Quiz 1: A New Nation	17. The Voices of Despair: Emily Dickinson
6. American Naissance 1840-1855: Introduction	18. Project: Responding to Literature
7. The Fireside Poets: Henry Wadsworth Longfellow	19. Quiz 3: The Voices of Despair
8. The Fireside Poets: John Greenleaf Whittier	20. Special Project
9. The Fireside Poets: Oliver Wendell Holmes	21. Test: The Romantic Period
10. The Transcendentalists: Ralph Waldo Emerson	22. Alternate Test: The Romantic Period
11. The Transcendentalists: Henry David Thoreau	23. Reference
12. The Transcendentalists: Walt Whitman	

UNIT 3: WAR AND RECONCILIATION 1855-1915
Assignment Titles

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|---|---|
| 1. Secession and Loyalty 1855-1865: Introduction | 13. Naturalists, Regionalists and Realists: Stephen Crane |
| 2. Frederick Douglass | 14. Kate Chopin |
| 3. Harriet Beecher Stowe | 15. Paul Laurence Dunbar |
| 4. Spirituals | 16. Jack London |
| 5. Robert E. Lee | 17. Essay: Analysis and Response |
| 6. Abraham Lincoln | 18. Quiz 3: Naturalists, Regionalists, and Realists |
| 7. Quiz 1: Secession and Loyalty 1855–1865 | 19. Special Project |
| 8. Realism and Naturalism 1865-1915: Introduction | 20. Test: War and Reconciliation |
| 9. Samuel Langhorne Clemens (Mark Twain) | 21. Alternate Test: War and Reconciliation |
| 10. William Dean Howells | 22. Reference |
| 11. Henry James | |
| 12. Quiz 2: Realism and Naturalism 1865–1915 | |

UNIT 4: THE MODERN AGE 1915-1946
Assignment Titles

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|-----------------------------------|--|
| 1. The Modern Age | 12. Quiz 2: Modern Poetry |
| 2. Modern Prose: Ernest Hemingway | 13. Other Modern Age Literature: Harlem Renaissance, Langston Hughes |
| 3. F. Scott Fitzgerald | 14. Drama: Thornton Wilder |
| 4. Quiz 1: Modern Prose | 15. Religious Works: J. Gresham Machen |
| 5. Modern Poetry: Ezra Pound | 16. Quiz 3: Other Literature |
| 6. Carl Sandburg | 17. Special Project |
| 7. E. E. Cummings | 18. Test: The Modern Age |
| 8. Wallace Stevens | 19. Alternate Test: The Modern Age |
| 9. Robert Frost | 20. Reference |
| 10. W. H. Auden | |
| 11. Project: Poetry Models | |

UNIT 5: FROM MODERN TO POSTMODERN 1946-PRESENT
Assignment Titles

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|---|---|
| 1. The Birth of Postmodernism: Introduction | 11. Social Issues: Martin Luther King, Jr. |
| 2. Flannery O'Connor (1) | 12. Essay: Dr. King's Literary Allusions |
| 3. Flannery O'Connor (2) | 13. Ralph Ellison |
| 4. Flannery O'Connor (3) | 14. Gwendolyn Brooks |
| 5. Theodore Roethke | 15. Project: Responding to Postmodernism |
| 6. Quiz 1: The Birth of Postmodernism | 16. Quiz 3: Social Issues |
| 7. More Contemporary Writers: Eudora Welty | 17. Special Project |
| 8. John Updike | 18. Test: From Modern to Postmodern |
| 9. Robert Trail Spence Lowell, Jr. | 19. Alternate Test: From Modern to Postmodern |
| 10. Quiz 2: More Contemporary Writers | 20. Reference |