



ENGLISH 3P HONORS: American Essentials

Instructor: Ms. Alba

E-mail: lalba@ggusd.us or lalba@ggusd.net

Office Hours: Tuesday or Thursday 3-4:00 p.m. & by appointment

Class Website: www.msalbasclass.com

Twitter Feed: @AlbasClassGGHS

Remind: Text @3pho to 81010

Google Class: iu39hzx

Course Description & Objectives

English 3P Honors will focus on analyzing the historical context and philosophical background that gave rise to the canon of American Literature and Composition. Class content will provide a survey of the major literary forms, topics and themes across the history of the United States from pre-colonial times to present day.

Students will focus on developing a critical understanding of major literary forms of the United States as an emerging nation, analyzing major literary themes and philosophical trends, and will show understanding through research and composition of formal academic essays, speeches, and presentations using appropriate forms of style and discourse. Because this is weighted as an Honors course, be prepared to synthesize class content with significant independent research and reading.

Texts, Materials, and Technology

Beers, Kylene and Lee Odell. *Holt Literature and Language Arts: Essentials of Literature*. Austin: Holt Rinehart and Winston, 2003.

Composition Book, Glue Stick, Writing Utensils, AERIES & Google Account

Homework & Assignments

NOTEBOOKS, which include both class and homework, will be collected every three weeks. (See interactive Notebook Rubric and Guidelines for details.) *All assignments are to be turned in the day they are due.*

Make-ups are permitted for tests, quizzes, homework, etc. following an excused absence. Students are solely responsible for informing themselves about work missed during absences. Worksheets and assignments will be listed and posted for printing on the weekly class calendar msalbasclass.com/weeklyupdates. Late work is not permitted and must be turned in digitally or in person by the time specified by the teacher. I am regularly available to students that are having difficulties with the materials, and I am also always willing to discuss arrangements for students with special circumstances.

Tests

Every unit will be closed with an assessment of students grasp of key standards, concepts, terms, and skills covered by both lecture and textbook material. Study guides will be provided. Additional support can be obtained by visiting me during after school hours. Students that receive a 2 or below will be have an opportunity to improve their score by retaking the exam. The two test scores will be averaged for the final grade.

Grading Policy

Grades will be based on tests, quizzes, homework packets, projects, writing assignments, and participation. The value of each of these components at the outcome of the semester is as follows:

- 30% Writing Assignments & End of Unit Projects (Summative)
- 30% Tests (Summative)
- 30% Notebook (Formative)
- 10% Quizzes (Formative)

Grading Scale

Grading is based on mastery of knowledge and skills demonstrated through assessment evidence. Every assignment and assessment will be given a level of mastery score between one and five in a give category. At the end of the semester, a letter grade will assigned on the average of the 1-5 in each grading category. At the end of the semester, a letter grade will be assigned based on the average of the 1-5 scores of all the grading categories.

Students will have opportunities to redo assignments or retest assessments to demonstrate a possible higher level of mastery. If a higher level of mastery is demonstrated, it will replace the lower score for that assignment or assessment.

5.0 = Letter grade translates to an A and reveals **ADVANCED** Mastery that exceeds assignment requirements through synthesis and connections beyond the assigned readings.

4.0 = Letter grade translates to a B and reveals **PROFICIENT** mastery of standards and meets assignment requirements with no major errors.

3.0 = Letter grade translates to a C and reveals **BASIC** understanding of content standards and meets basic assignment skills but there are errors regarding more complex ideas and processes.

2.0 = Letter grade translates to a D and reveals **BELOW BASIC** understanding of content standards through evidence of partial knowledge and some basic skills and requirements, but there are major errors that demonstrate for further practice.

1.0 = Letter grade translates to an F and demonstrates **FAR BELOW BASIC** understanding of content standards due to major errors and limited evidence of assignment requirements.

Interactive Notebook Guidelines

The Interactive Student Notebook will be provided for all students and will be the key to success in my class. It will contain notes, handouts, and valuable information concerning class material. It will also contain your thoughts, creativity, and personality – so take care of it! **Your Interactive Student Notebook must come to class every day!** This is essential—along with quizzes it is 40% of your grade!

Your Interactive Student Notebook must contain the following aspects:

1. A **COVER** with your basic information - your name, the course name, your class period, and my name.
2. A **TABLE OF CONTENTS** identifying the material contained in the notebook in chronological order and the page number in your notebook.
3. All materials that are contained in your notebook must be complete and have a title, **including the date**. This is primarily aimed at class materials, such as starters, notes and diagrams, as well as homework assignments and readings.