



**KENOSHA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1
CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES**

**COURSE SYLLABUS FOR
AMERICAN LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION
(123011 & 123012)**

Number of Credits: 1 credit

Prerequisites: None

Course Description

American Literature/Composition is a literature based composition course that will improve reading, writing, listening, viewing and speaking skills. The primary focus will be American Literature from Pre-Columbian-America through the 21st Century. Elements of composition will concentrate on the writing process including expository and persuasive styles. Students will develop reading strategies to interpret, analyze and evaluate a variety of texts.

Relevance

This course will foster students' ability to read critically, write effectively, and communicate efficiently, providing the foundation for career opportunities.

Course Standards

Standard A: READING/LITERATURE
Standard B: WRITING

Standard C: LISTENING/VIEWING
Standard D: SPEAKING

Most essential benchmarks may be viewed at: www.kusd.edu.

Lifelong Learning Standards

- Knowledgeable person
- Complex thinker
- Effective communicator
- Self-directed learner
- Quality producer
- Contributing citizen

Lifelong learning benchmarks may be viewed at: www.kusd.edu.

Course Outline

Semester 1
Pre-Columbian
Native American to Civil War
Semester 2
Civil War to present day

Board-Approved Instructional Materials

The Language of Literature: American Literature. McDougal Littell. 2002.
(ISBN 2-71098)

Odell, Lee. et al. Elements of Language-Fourth Course. Holt, Rinehart and Winston. 2004.
(ISBN H68668-7)

Resources for Parents

Methods of Assessment

Final exams should be cumulative in nature, emphasizing the most essential benchmarks for the course. Results of the final exam represent 20 percent of the final grade, but this single measure *may not* drop a student's grade by more than one letter grade. In courses that rely heavily on a major project, performance exhibition, etc., the project should be divided into stages or components and each of those should be graded separately, providing students with frequent and specific feedback.

Board-Approved Grading Scale

Excerpts taken from School Board Rule 6452

GRADING SCALE

A+=98-100 percent	B+=86-89 percent	C+=76-79 percent	D+=66-69 percent
A=93-97 percent	B=83-85 percent	C=73-75 percent	D=63-65 percent
A-=90-92 percent	B-=80-82 percent	C-=70-72 percent	D-=60-62 percent
			F=0-59 percent

MAKE-UP WORK

Students submitting work up to ten school days late without prior approval may receive up to two grades lower on the work than they would have received if the work had been submitted on time (i.e., B+ lowered to a D+). Student work submitted after ten school days without prior approval shall not be accepted for credit and shall be recorded with a score of zero.

Upon returning to school after an absence, a student has the responsibility within the number of days equal to the length of the absence or suspension to meet with the teacher to develop a plan for making up missed work, quizzes, and examinations. A truant student has the responsibility on the first day he or she returns to the course/class to meet with the teacher to develop a plan for making up missed work, quizzes, and examinations. Lower grades may not be given for late work due to excused absences, suspension, or truancy unless the work is submitted later than agreed upon deadlines.

See Rule 6452 in its entirety at: www.kusd.edu.

Plagiarism

According to Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary, to plagiarize is "to steal and pass off (the ideas or words of another) as one's own : use [another's production] without crediting the source." This includes copying all or part of another student's homework, copying information from books, magazines, internet sites, or any other source without proper citation. The seriousness of such actions is reflected in the consequences defined by school policy.