Course Description
Students in American Literature analyze United States literature as it reflects social perspective and historical significance by continuing to use language for expressive, expository, argumentative and literary purposes. The emphasis of this course is critical analysis of texts through reading, writing, speaking, listening and viewing media. It is important to note that students cannot merely just state opinions but must find rhetorical justifications to support opinions. Additionally, we will contemplate the relevance of these themes and literary texts as they connect with our life experiences.

Course Objectives
We believe that it is our duty to teach students how to read not only for entertainment value, but also as a way of gleaning information, developing critical thinking skills, and understanding a variety of human experiences and perspectives. We believe that good writing is the product of significant, worthwhile ideas, fluent style, correct mechanics, and an accurate understanding of one’s audience. Our goal is to help students become effective communicators in the academic, social, and business world when they leave our classrooms. The emphasis of this course is critical analysis of texts through reading, writing, speaking, listening and viewing media. It is important to note that students cannot merely just state opinions but must find rhetorical justifications to support opinions.

Student Expectations
Students are expected to:

• Be a self-starter; have the maturity and motivation to work independently.
• Use time wisely, be organized, be self-directed, and be willing to use new modes of communication and learning.
• Be willing to put in the needed time; read the text carefully, and actively participate in online class activities.
• Check communication frequently; get all assignments in during the week, and discuss any concerns and questions with the instructor immediately.
• Have regular access to a computer/tablet that meets minimum requirements. Have basic computer skills and be able to navigate the internet.
• Download necessary course materials.
• Reach out to your instructor for help as needed.
• Establish a regular routine for checking for course communication and participating in course activities.
• Be sure to check in for the first time within 1-2 days at the start of the term.
• Reach out to your instructor to introduce yourself and your needs.
• Read the course syllabus and check for any special instructions from the instructor; be aware of any instructor expectations as well as any assignment/activity deadlines.
• Follow the assignment calendar.
• Adhere to the Fulton County Schools Student Code of Conduct, Plagiarism Policy/Academic Dishonesty Policies.

Communication
Students are expected to:

• Contact the instructor through established course communication (GeniusSIS, Edgenuity, Text, Email, Phone Call, Skype/Google Hangout).
• Reach out to support offices for help as needed (i.e., library, counselor).
• Check communication frequently.
• Ensure that your instructor has an accurate email and phone number for you and your parents.

Grading Policy
You will be graded on the work you do online and the work you submit electronically to your teacher. The weighting for each category of graded activity is listed below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assignments</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lesson Quizzes</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit Tests</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essays</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labs</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Projects</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Assignments</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cumulative Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All of the grades that you receive online will be recorded in Edgenuity. To view your grades in Edgenuity, click on: organizer; reports; then, scores and feedback.

Fulton County Schools Grade Recovery Policy
Opportunities designed to allow students to recover from a low or failing cumulative grade will be allowed when all work required to date has been completed and the student has demonstrated a legitimate effort to meet all course requirements including attendance. Students should contact the teacher concerning
recovery opportunities. Teachers are expected to establish a reasonable time period for recovery work to be completed during the semester. All recovery work must be directly related to course objectives and must be completed ten school days prior to the end of the semester.

**Due Dates**

The Fulton Virtual School’s policy is to allow students to work at an individualized pace in the course. You are expected to work at your own pace and have the course finished by the last day of the class. You are expected to show the same level of commitment as you would in your traditional school setting.

**Scope and Sequence**

When you log into the Virtual Classroom, you can view the entire course map, which provides a scope and sequence of all topics you will study. Clicking a lesson’s link in the course map leads to a page listing instructional activities, assignments, and learning objectives specific to that lesson. The units of study are summarized below.

- **Unit 1**: Synthesis Essay/Project (Topic Changes Each Semester)
- **Unit 2**: The Roaring Twenties, Modernism, and Postwar Outlooks
- **Unit 3**: I, too, Am America: The Harlem Renaissance and Cultural Rebellion
- **Unit 4**: The Promise of America: Different Genres' Approaches to the Same Topic
- **Unit 5**: Heritage and Multicultural American Identities
- **Unit 6**: Globalization and the Information Age: Postmodernism into the Twenty-First Century

**Georgia Performance Standards**

This course is correlated to the Georgia Performance Standards. If you would like more information on the GPS, please visit: [https://drive.google.com/open?id=1pNkxf7FQWbAWMi-RfApTDeqsHXceGTq2](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1pNkxf7FQWbAWMi-RfApTDeqsHXceGTq2)
Fulton Virtual School Academic Integrity Policy

In a virtual learning environment, honesty and integrity are integral traits for academic success. At Fulton Virtual, we believe that all students must show integrity in the completion and submission in all aspects of the academic experience. Therefore, no forms of cheating, assisting others in cheating, and/or plagiarism (passing off the work of others as if it is your own) will be tolerated.

When collaboration is necessary to complete tasks and projects, Fulton Virtual School instructors will provide students with advance notice. Thus, all work is considered an individual assignment unless otherwise noted. The following list of dishonest behaviors has been compiled to assist you. This list is by no means exhaustive, and each infraction of academic dishonesty will be handled by the virtual instructor on an individual, case-by-case basis.

*Dishonest behavior includes, but is not limited to:*

1. Plagiarism. Plagiarism can be defined as the inclusion of another’s ideas, words, expressions, or data in writing or presentation without properly acknowledging the source.

2. Unauthorized use of another person's password/login. Student logins/passwords are confidential information that should not be shared with others.

3. Cheating. Cheating can be defined as the act or attempted act of deception by which a student seeks to misrepresent his submitted work as uniquely his own completed without assistance. Cheating includes copying another student’s work and submitting it as your own.

4. Impersonation. Performing work or taking an examination for another student or allowing someone to do so for you.

5. Falsification and/or misrepresentation of data. This can be defined as the submission of false or contrived data or sources.

6. Computer crimes. This may include damaging computer programs, hacking, constructing viruses, introducing viruses into a system, copying programs, etc.

*Academic dishonesty will result in one or more of the following actions:***
• Loss of grade points
• Removal from the course
• Failure to receive credit for the course
• Loss of eligibility to earn credits through Fulton Virtual Schools

Fulton Virtual School instructors have the authority to require that students perform other tasks or undergo additional assessments in proctored situations. If a Fulton Virtual School instructor suspects that there is a problem with academic integrity, the administrators of both the local school and Fulton Virtual School will be informed. Failure to follow these guidelines may result in removal from your virtual course without further warning.

All Fulton Virtual Students Must Agree and Adhere to the Following Academic Integrity Guidelines:

• I understand and will support and will abide by the guidelines set for in the Fulton Virtual School Academic Integrity Policy.
• I will not personally cheat (i.e., use unauthorized materials in completing my assignments and assessments), and I will not help others cheat.
• If I become aware of anyone else’s cheating or use of unauthorized materials (or any other violations of Fulton Virtual School’s Academic Integrity Policy, I have a personal responsibility to report the matter to an instructor or administrator.