

Multicultural Literature and Composition

Grade 12

Northview High School

2023-2024 Course Syllabus

Course Description:

The course focuses on world literature and informational texts by and about people of diverse ethnic backgrounds. Students explore themes of linguistic and cultural diversity by comparing, contrasting, analyzing, and critiquing writing styles and universal themes. The students write argumentative, expository, narrative, analytical, and response essays. A research component is critical. The students observe and listen critically and respond appropriately to written and oral communication. Conventions are essential for reading, writing, and speaking. Instruction in language conventions will, therefore, occur within the context of reading, writing, and speaking rather than in isolation. The students understand and acquire new vocabulary and use it correctly in reading, writing, and speaking. This course reflects the Georgia Standards of Excellence for grades 11-12.

Note: As an ELA class, the texts we read and discuss may, at times, raise various sensitive issues related to race, class, and gender, for instance, and our standards require us to look at issues from multiple perspectives. In instances where a text may raise divisive concepts, parents will be notified in advance and can request an alternative text.

Textbooks:

My Perspectives, British and World Literature - Provided by Northview H.S.

- Replacement Cost: \$10

Your individual teacher will provide a list of any additional works (novels, etc.) to be read in your class. Many students choose to purchase their own copies in order to annotate effectively.

Course Units*:

- **Unit 1: Reflection on Society**
 - Multicultural Perspectives: Introduction to multicultural literature, Native American and Indigenous Peoples Literature
 - Essential Question: How do people come to have different views of society?
- **Unit 2: Forging a Hero**
 - Multicultural Perspectives: European Literature
 - Essential Question: What makes a hero?
- **Unit 3: Discovering the Self**
 - Multicultural Perspectives: Asian and Pacific Islander Literature
 - Essential Question: How do we define ourselves?
- **Unit 4: Facing the Future, Confronting the Past**
 - Multicultural Perspectives: African Literature

- *Essential Question:* How do our attitudes toward the past and future shape our actions?
- **Unit 5: Finding a Home**
 - Multicultural Perspectives: Latin American and Caribbean Literature
 - *Essential Question:* What does it mean to call a place home?
- **Unit 6: Seeing Things New**
 - Multicultural Perspectives: Middle Eastern and Indian Literature
 - *Essential Question:* Why are both vision and disillusion necessary?

**Note for Multicultural Literature:* The course units are designed by Fulton County for Grade 12 English, and will be adapted to reflect the multicultural lens and perspective of the multicultural literature course description.

Evaluation and Grading:

Students will earn numerical final grades for the course based on the following grading scale:

A= 90 and above B=80 – 89 C=70 – 79 F=69 and below

Assignments are graded using the following categories:

Grading Category	Description	Percentage of Final Course Grade
Major	Essays, timed writing, projects, group-work, presentations, speeches, constructed-response assessments, multimedia projects, socratic-style discussions.	55%
Minor	Quizzes, grammar work, annotations, journals, informal evaluations, small projects, collaborative work, etc.	35%
Practice	Daily skill-building activities, bell-ringers/do-nows, and classwork assignments.	10%

- **Major:** An assignment or assessment that is *cumulative in nature that measures learning targets from multiple standards/skills.*
- **Minor:** An assignment or assessment that measures an *individual learning target, standard, or subset of learning targets/standards/ skills* within a unit.
- **Practice:** Daily assignments, observations, and/or engagement activities given in class or for homework to *build pre-requisite skills, measure progress towards mastery of a learning target or standard, enrich, and/or remediate skills.*

Late Work:

Late work will receive a grade of zero if not completed by the due date. **All work submitted after the due date will receive 15% off** the overall grade scored on the task (practice/major/minor). Students have until the end of the unit to clear the zero of

the missing assignment. **Work submitted after the end of the unit deadline will be subject to a maximum of 25% deduction off the overall grade.**

Recovery:

Students will be afforded the **one** opportunity to recover **major** assessments if they score below a 75% on the assessment. Students are limited to one recovery attempt per major assessment that meets the threshold for recovery. Recovery is not provided for minor or practice assignments.

Recovery of a major assessment will be completed before the next major assessment is given. Students are eligible to earn a replacement grade on recovery that is **no higher than 75%**. If a student's recovery grade is below the original score, the original score will stand in the grade book.

Teachers may require that all missing work be submitted and/or students attend remediation session(s) prior to completing recovery.

Recovery must be requested by the student and completed **prior** to the due date for the next major assignment/assessment.

Cell Phone Policy:

Students may not use cell phones during class unless explicitly approved on a specific day for instructional purposes by the teacher.

- Upon entering the classroom, all students must place their cell phone in their assigned pocket # of the classroom's hanging cell phone holder
- Once placed in the cell phone holder, students may not access during class time without the explicit permission of the teacher on a specific day for instructional purposes
- If leaving the classroom to use the restroom, vending machine, etc., cell phones must remain in the classroom holder; students are not allowed to bring phones with them
- If a student refuses to follow school and district cell phone rules, the teacher should (1) remind the student of the rule, (2) notify the parent/guardian via email that the student is not following the rule, (3) assign a detention, and (4) submit a behavior referral to the appropriate administrator.
- At the administrator's discretion, the student's cell phone may be confiscated and returned only to a parent/guardian. Further disciplinary consequences may be assigned depending on the circumstances.

Tardies:

Students are expected to be in class and ready to begin work before the tardy bell sounds. Upon the first tardy to any class during a 4.5 week grading period, the teacher will review tardy policy with the student.

Repeated tardiness to the same class will result in assignment of the following consequences:

- 2nd tardy: one day private detention with teacher
- 3rd tardy: referral to administrator and one day of public detention (2 hours)
- 4th & subsequent tardy: referral to administrator and Titan Opportunity School (2 days, 2 hours each)

Tardies accumulate throughout each 4.5 week grading period. At the start of each new 4.5 week grading period, the tardy count restarts.

Communication:

Students: Every student should check their FCS email EVERY DAY for announcements and communication. Teachers will communicate with students via Teams and FCS email.

Parents: Teachers will call and/or email and/or Teams meet with parents and their students, as needed, to discuss student progress.

Who to contact in case of an Academic issue: Students should contact the teacher first. If the issue is unresolved, the next communication point would be the Department Chair, then the Assistant Principal in charge of the content, then the Principal.

Who to contact in case of a Social/Emotional issue: Parents and/or students should contact a trusted adult in the building and a counselor. If needed, our School Social Worker may also provide support.

Attendance/Absence Policy:

It is the student's responsibility to complete all work by the prescribed deadline for the assignment. It is the student's responsibility to initiate any make-up work in the event of an absence. Students should initially consult TEAMS regarding assignments and then contact their teacher via email to confirm the opportunity to make-up assignments and deadlines. Students will have the number of days absent to make up work (e.g., 2 days absent = 2 days to make up assignments).

Additional notes on absences:

- **Tests/Timed Writings**: Students need to contact their teacher to schedule a time to make-up a missed assignment (e.g., during Titan Time, before/after school).
 - Per the late work policy, failure to make-up assignments in the allotted number of days will result in **a 15% reduction in assignment grade during the unit**, and **a 25% deduction for work submitted after the unit**.
- **Pre-Planned Absences**: Absences planned (e.g., scheduled trip, school club/function) do not immediately indicate that a student is exempt from a deadline, such as an assessment occurring on the day the student returns from

the absence. Students need to work with their teacher to confirm when assignments/assessments are due prior to the planned absence, and whether a virtual option for submitting is possible (e.g., uploading to TEAMS).

Accommodations:

Per the GA Department of Education's Accommodations Manual (2018), "Accommodations are changes in the administration of an assessment in terms of how the student takes or responds to the assessment. Broad categories of accommodations include presentation, response, setting, and scheduling. Accommodations do not change the construct intended to be measured by the assessment or the meaning of the resulting scores. Accommodations are designed to provide equity, not advantage or reduce learning expectations, for students with disabilities" (p. 5).

Only students with an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or 504 Plan can be considered for accommodations on assignments or assessments.

An accommodation must be listed in a student's IEP or 504 Plan for a student to be allowed to use that accommodation. Please note, that when it comes to accommodations for extended time, it is expected that students with accommodations work with the teacher to ensure that an accommodation for extended time on a major/minor assignment or assessment is established before a due date/assessment administration. A student must reach out to their teacher before/after class or via email to establish the extended time.

Late Work:

Late work will receive a grade of zero if not completed by the due date. All work submitted after the due date will receive 15% off the overall grade scored on the task (practice/major/minor). Students have until the end of the unit to clear the zero of the missing assignment. Work submitted after the end of unit deadline will be subject to a maximum of 25% deduction off the overall grade.

Honor Code:

As explained in the student handbook, cheating is defined as "the giving or receiving, in any form, information relating to a gradable experience other than those specifically approved by the teacher, either during or outside of class." Violations of the honor code will result in a zero for the assignment, plus an honor code violation form placed in the student's disciplinary file. Read the handbook carefully to fully understand what constitutes a violation.

Northview HS English Department Plagiarism Statement: Plagiarism is presenting another's words or ideas as though they are entirely one's own. **Plagiarism is an Honor Code Violation.**

Acts of plagiarism can include, but are not limited to:

1. Using words or ideas from a published source or the internet without proper permission;
2. Using the work of another student (e.g., copying another student's homework, composition, or project in entirety or in part;
3. Using excessive editing suggestions of another student, teacher, parent, or paid author.

Excessive editing note: Students learn to write well through practice and independent exploration of language manipulation. This effort, like any learning experience, often requires persistence and "perspiration." Well-meaning parents, siblings, tutors, and others who contribute their own ideas, words, phrases, and revisions to a student's writing, not only cause that student to miss the opportunity to achieve self-reliance, but also inhibit the student from presenting his own voice.

Positive ways to help a student grow in his writing process include reading the paper or writing exercise and marking areas that need clarification, punctuation, elaboration, or more precise wording, allowing the student to figure out the error and correct it independently. Oftentimes having the student read the paper aloud will greatly help in error identification. Cues such as, "What exactly do you mean?" or "This sentence seems awkward" are also very appropriate.

Plagiarism on any project or paper at Northview High School will result in a zero for the assignment and an Honor Code violation. Unless directly stipulated by the teacher, collaboration on written work is not acceptable. Students who willingly provide other students with access to their coursework or homework are also in violation of the Honor Code.

Technology Offenses (Respect/Honesty/Citizenship):

Technology is vitally important to student success. As we navigate our Universal Remote Learning, please adhere to Digital Citizenship Expectations. Rule 18 in Fulton County's Code of Conduct refers specifically to Technology Offenses:

18.d. Use or participate in using personal or school technology resources to distribute or display inappropriate material. Inappropriate material does not serve an instructional or educational purpose and includes but is not limited to the following (See Rule 6b for bullying using technology): Is profane, vulgar, lewd, obscene, offensive, indecent, sexually explicit, pornographic or threatening; Advocates illegal or dangerous acts; Causes disruption to Fulton County School District, its employees or students; Advocates violence; Contains knowingly false, recklessly false, or defamatory information; or Is otherwise harmful to minors as defined by the Children's Internet Protection Act. (The local school police officer must be notified of such incidents.)

18.f. Gain or attempt to gain unauthorized access to the District's computer data, network, system, Internet connections, email accounts, or intranet or to any third party's computer system, data, or network, such as: Malicious tampering, phishing, or hacking

activities; Intentionally seeking information about passwords belonging to other users; Disclosing a user's password to the District's computer network, system, Internet connections, email accounts, or intranet to other individuals. Students, however, may share their passwords with their parents. Modifying passwords belonging to others; Attempting to log in through another person's account; Attempting to gain access to material that is blocked or filtered by the District; Accessing, copying, or modifying another user's files without authorization; Disguising a user's identity; Using the password or identifier of an account that does not belong to the user; or Engaging in uses that jeopardize access into others' accounts or other computer networks or systems.

Advanced Composition/Multicultural/British Literature Movie List

Dear Parents or Guardians,

Your student will be studying film during their language arts course. These courses introduce the concept of reading film rather than merely watching for entertainment. Much like we have traditionally analyzed literature, students learn that film is a medium of expression, commentary, opinion, etc. as are novels/ plays/ etc. Throughout this course we will be exploring how film directors use their craft to make their movies and influence their audiences. All the films we will be watching capture excellent examples of film direction and technique, as well as include other texts that enable the students to use the analytical skills they have already learned through the course.

<u>Film</u>	<u>Director</u>	<u>Rating</u>
13 th	Ava DuVarnay	NR
21 (2008)	Robert Luketic	PG-13
3:10 to Yuma (2007)	James Mangold	R (violence)
300 (2006)	Zack Snyder	R (intensive, graphic combat and sexuality)
About a Boy	Chris and Paul Weitz	PG-13
Amelie	Jean-Pierre Jeunet	R (sexual content)
A Beautiful Mind (2001)	Ron Howard	PG-13
A Christmas Carol	Robert Zemeckis	PG
A Knight's Tale	Brian Hegleland	PG-13
About a Boy	Chris Weitz	PG-13
Alice in Wonderland	Tim Burton	PG
Atonement	Joe Wright	R (sexuality, violence)
Bajrangi Bhaijaan	Kabir Khan	NR
Batman Begins (2005)	Christopher Nolan	PG-13
Beowulf	Robert Zemeckis	PG-13
Big Fish	Tim Burton	PG
Billy Elliot	Stephen Daldry	R (language)
Castaway	Robert Zemeckis	PG-13
Chef	Jon Favreau	R (language)
Children of Men (2006)	Alfonso Cuaron	R (language, violence)

Cinderella Man (2005)	Ron Howard	PG-13
Citizen Kane (1941)	Orson Welles	NR
Clash of the Titans	Louis Leterrier	PG-13
Cloud Atlas	The Wachowskis	R (violence, language, sexuality)
Cool Hand Luke	Stuart Rosenberry	NR
Crash (2007)	Paul Haggis	R (strong violence, language, sexuality)
Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon	Ang Lee	PG-13
Edward Scissorhands (1990)	Tim Burton	PG-13
Fantastic Mr. Fox	Wes Anderson	PG
Ferris Bueller's Day Off	John Hughes	PG-13
First Knight	Jerry Zucker	PG-13
Forrest Gump (1994)	Robert Zemeckis	PG-13
Friday Night Lights	Peter Berg	PG-13
Fruitvale Station	Ryan Coogler	R (violence, language)
Goodfellas	Martin Scorsese	R (violence, language)
Good Will Hunting	Gus Van Sant	R (language)
Gran Torino (2008)	Clint Eastwood	R (violence, language)
Grand Budapest Hotel	Wes Anderson	R (language, sexuality, violence)
Great Expectations (1998)	Alfonso Cuaron	R (language, sexuality)
Groundhog Day	Harold Ramis	PG
Guardians of the Galaxy	James Gunn	PG-13
Heathers (1989)	Michael Lehman	R (language)
Hotel Rwanda	Terry George	PG-13
House of the Flying Daggers	Zhang Yimou	PG-13
Hunt for the Wilderpeople	Taika Waititi	PG-13
Inception (2010)	Christopher Nolan	PG-13
In the Name of the Father	Jim Sheridan	R (language)
The Intouchables	Olivier Nakache, Eric Toledano	R (mild drug use, language, sexuality)
Jaws (1975)	Steven Spielberg	PG

Juno	Jason Reitman	PG-13
King Arthur	Antoine Fuqua	PG-13
L.A. Confidential (1997)	Curtis Hanson	R (violence and language)
Last Week Tonight with John Oliver	John Oliver	R
Life is Beautiful	Roberto Benigni	PG-13
Limitless	Neil Burger	PG-13
Looking at Movies	Barsam, Monahan	NR
March of the Penguins	Luc Jacquet	G
Mean Girls (2004)	Mark Waters	PG-13
Megamind	Tom McGrath	PG
Monty Python & the Holy Grail	Gilliam, Jones	PG
Mulan (1998)	Tony Bancroft/Barry Cook	G
Napoleon Dynamite (2004)	Jared Hess	PG
O	Tim Blake Nelson	R (sexuality, language, violence)
Othello (1995)	Oliver Parker	R (some sexuality)
Pan's Labyrinth (2006)	Guillermo Del Toro	R (language, violence)
Pixar Shorts	Kaplan, Milsom	NR
Pleasantville (1998)	Gary Ross	PG-13
Pride and Prejudice (2005)	Joe Wright	PG
Pulp Fiction	Quentin Tarantino	R (violence, language, drug use)
Rabbit-Proof Fence	Phillip Noyce	PG
Rear Window (1954)	Alfred Hitchcock	NR
Risky Business	Paul Brickman	R(language, sexuality)
Road to Perdition	Sam Mendes	R (violence, language)
Rocky	John G. Avidlsen	PG
Rudy (1993)	David Anspaugh	PG
Run Lola Run	Tom Tykwer	R (language, violence)
Saving Private Ryan (1998)	Steven Spielberg	R (language, violence)
Say Anything	Cameron Crowe	PG-13

Shutter Island	Martin Scorsese	R (violence, language)
Simon Birch (1998)	Mark Steven Johnson	PG
Sing Street	John Carney	PG-13
Slumdog Millionaire (2008)	Danny Boyle	R (violence, language)
Smoke Signals	Chris Eyre	PG-13
Spellbound	Jeffrey Blitz	G
Stand By Me	Rob Reiner	R(language)
Star Wars (1977)	George Lucas	PG
Stranger Than Fiction	Marc Forster	PG-13
SuperSize Me	Morgan Spurlock	PG-13
The Avengers	Joss Whedon	PG-13
The Big Lebowski	John Coen	R (language, drug use)
The Breakfast Club (1985)	John Hughes	R (language)
The Colbert Report	Stephen Colbert	PG-13
The Color Purple (1985)	Steven Spielberg	PG-13
The Daily Show	John Stewart, Trevor Noah	PG-13
The Dark Knight (2008)	Christopher Nolan	PG-13
The Green Mile (1999)	Frank Darabont	R (language, violence, mild sexuality)
The Importance of Being Earnest	Oliver Parker	PG
The Incredibles (2004)	Brad Bird	PG
The King's Speech	Tom Hooper	R (some language)
The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance (1962)	John Ford	NR
The Matrix (1999)	The Wachowski Brothers	R (sci-fi violence and brief language)
The Prestige (2006)	Christopher Nolan	PG-13
The Princess Bride (1987)	Rob Reiner	PG
The Shawshank Redemption (1994)	Frank Darabont	R (language, violence)
The Sixth Sense (1999)	M Night Shyamalan	PG-13
The Truman Show (1998)	Peter Weir	PG
Troy	Wolfgang Petersen	R (sexuality, violence)

Up	Peter Docter	PG
V for Vendetta (2006)	James McTeigue	R (strong violence, some language)
When They See Us	Ava DuVarnay	NR
Won't You Be My Neighbor	Morgan Nellville	PG-13
Yellow Brick Road	Keith Rondinelli, Matthew Makar	NR

Please list below any films that your student would not be approved to view from the above list:

I have reviewed and understand the course syllabus:

Syllabus Signature (Parent): _____ Date: _____

Syllabus Signature (Student): _____ Date: _____

Northview High School 2023-2024 Syllabus Signature Sheet

Student
Last Name

Student
First Name

Date

Teacher:

Subject:

Please read the teacher's full-length syllabus. Log on to www.northviewhigh.com then click on the syllabus link to locate the teacher's name. Sign below if you have read the online syllabus.

Student Signature
(handwritten,
not typed)

Parent Signature
(handwritten,
not typed)

Parent Email

Recovery Policy

All students will have the opportunity to recover all major assignments/assessments.

- Students will have one opportunity to recover their grade on each major assignment/assessment if they scored below 75% on the initial attempt. Recovery is not provided for minor or practice assignments.
- Students can earn a maximum grade of 75% on the recovered major assignment. Students who earn between 75 – 100 on the recovered assignment will receive a 75%. Students who earn below a 75 on the recovered assignment will receive the grade earned or the original grade, whichever is higher.
- To best position students for success, teachers may require students to complete any missing assignments, remediation activities, and/or attend extra-help sessions prior to recovery opportunities.
- Recovery must be requested by the student and completed prior to the due date for the next major assignment/assessment.

Sign below if you understand the recovery policy.

Student Signature
(handwritten,
not typed)

Parent Signature
(handwritten,
not typed)

HONOR CODE

Cheating has been defined as giving or receiving, in any form, information relating to a gradable experience including the use of sources of information other than those specifically approved by the teacher, either during or outside of class. Examples of cheating include, but are not limited to, visual exchanges (cheat sheets, copying, open books or notes, writing on hands, shoes, or desks, calculators, submission of another student's work, etc.), and verbal, electronic or coded exchanges. Other examples include, but are not limited to, plagiarism, discussing tests with students who have not taken the test, copying homework assignments, not citing sources, etc.

An honor code violation may result in a zero on the assignment, no opportunity to make up the work, and disciplinary action. Honor Code violations will be reviewed when considering students for awards, organizations (National Honor Society, Beta, etc), clubs, class officers, and teacher/counselor recommendations. Discipline offenses are cumulative throughout a student's high school career. For the complete honor code policy, visit the Student Handbook on www.northviewhigh.com.

Sign below if you understand the consequences of cheating at Northview High School.

Student Signature
(handwritten,
not typed)

Parent Signature
(handwritten,
not typed)

TECHNOLOGY POLICY

Northview devices are only for school research and projects. The Internet may not be used for personal reasons. Any unauthorized use of the internet will be grounds for disciplinary and/or legal action as well as loss of Internet privileges. Attempts to log into the internet using another person's password, falsely posing as a school system administrator, or other security violations are grounds for termination of privileges and disciplinary measures. Computer vandalism (including food/drink in a lab) is prohibited and will result in immediate termination of Internet and computer access as well as appropriate disciplinary action.

Violators are subject to criminal prosecution. For the complete technology policy, visit Student Handbook on www.northviewhigh.com.

It is a violation of the above policy:

- to download or install any executable programs (such as games, iTunes, video players, chat programs, FTP programs, music or video sharing programs, etc.) to a school computer, or on to any student's shared folder.
- to store any files (documents, pictures, videos, etc.) on any student's shared folder (OneDrive) that are not directly used in an assignment or teacher directed work; no personal documents, pictures, music videos or other files.
- to use the school computers and internet connection to access email, games, chat rooms, sharing sites, ecommerce sites, etc, unless specifically directed by the teacher.

CELL PHONE POLICY

Students may **not** use cell phones during class unless explicitly approved on a specific day for instructional purposes by the teacher.

- Upon entering the classroom, all students must place their cell phone in their assigned pocket # of the classroom's hanging cell phone holder.
- Once placed in the cell phone holder, students may not access during class time without the explicit permission of the teacher on a specific day for instructional purposes.

If this form is not signed by the student and a parent or guardian by Friday, September 1st the student's computer account may be disabled until the form is signed. Sign below if you understand the Northview technology and cell phone policy.

Student Signature
(handwritten,
not typed)

Parent Signature
(handwritten,
not typed)

Please review the entire Syllabus Signature Sheet. Verify that you have signed your understanding of the three policies listed: Recovery, Honor Code, and Technology/Cell Phone.