Course Description: The 11th grade year of ELA focuses on literature by and about Americans, especially perspectives on what it means to be American and how writers and thinkers throughout the history of our country have approached this question. Because of the available and accepted texts, most of the perspectives we read will be from the perspective of white men but it is vitally important that we also read and consider alternate viewpoints, from Native Americans, women, immigrants, African-Americans, etc. To that end, we will also focus on reading texts and media, analyzing different perspectives, interpretations, and biases.

Expected Student Learning Outcomes:
Upon completing this course, students should be able to:
- Read and listen critically and analytically, identify an argument’s major assertions and evaluate its supporting evidence.
- Write clearly and coherently in varied, academic formats (such as formal essays, research papers, and reports) using Standard English and appropriate technology to critique and improve one’s own and others’ texts.
- Demonstrate research skills using appropriate technology, including gathering, evaluating, and synthesizing primary and secondary sources.
- Support a thesis with well-reasoned arguments, and communicate persuasively across a variety of contexts, purposes, audiences, and media.
- Formulate original ideas and relate them to the ideas of others by employing the conventions of ethical attribution and citation.
- Approach writing as a process that involves the steps of prewriting, drafting, revising and editing complete coherent essays.

Types of Assignments
- Daily reading assignments
- Marking Period Projects
- Journals/Response logs- Reflections
- Group work/Projects- team building, cooperative learning, group presentations

Grading Policy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Content &amp; Skills Mastery Level</th>
<th>Numerical Values for Transcripts</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exceeding Mastery (EM)</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting Mastery (MM)</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approaching Mastery (AM)</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developing Mastery (DM)</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Yet (NY)</td>
<td>55</td>
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</tbody>
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ALL ASSIGNMENTS MUST BE COMPLETED in order to pass the class. Assignments may be given

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Either as homework, in-class exercises or discussions. No late assignments will be accepted unless you receive specific approval from the Instructor. You will be allowed to revise all assignments that were turned in on time for a higher grade. Students who do not complete all assignments place themselves in jeopardy of failing the class.

Homework assignments will be given in class and/or with the syllabus and should be completed by the due date. Homework should be neat, legible, and demonstrate both time and effort in its completion. Homework assignments should be typed and double-spaced and adhere to MLA guidelines. Students who do not complete all homework assignments put themselves in jeopardy of failing the class.

Homework grades are based solely on the completeness of the work; individual assignments, such as weekly writing assignments, will count in the exams and essays category.

Unit Topic
A general outline of the year’s units (three per semester) follows:

Unit 4 -- The American Dream:
TEXT: The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald
- What is the American Dream? How can we achieve it? Is it realistic?
- What is success? What is failure? Who gets to decide?
- Does America have a unique relationship with wealth and/or class? If so, what makes it unique?

Unit 5 -- The Modern World
TEXT: The Crucible by Arthur Miller
- Is the American Dream still a realistic or achievable idea?
- What power do we have as individuals? How can we effect change?
- Who benefits from certain social or political policies? How do we see that in the play?
- How would you improve our society?

Unit 6 -- Writing / Multiple Choice Prep
- What does it mean to begin something?
- What skills are needed to improve writing a literary analysis?
- What skills are needed to prep for an Argument essay?
- What skills are needed to tackle multiple choice?

Plagiarism/Academic Dishonesty

Plagiarism is the intentional theft of another person’s intellectual work and an attempt to pass it off as your own. Copying from the internet, your friend, or even your own past work (without proper citation) can be plagiarism. If you are unsure whether you are plagiarizing, come speak with me. Academic dishonesty includes plagiarism and any form of cheating – copying a test or homework, having a friend or family member write a paper for you, etc. Plagiarism or any form of academic dishonesty is a serious offense and will be addressed as such. Academic dishonesty is most harmful to you, the student, as it robs you of an opportunity to improve your skills and demonstrate your learning.

- For a first offense, you will be given a zero for the assignment and I will contact your parents.

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- For a second offense, the principal will be notified and administrative consequences will follow.

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General Information: If you are having trouble with this class, go immediately to the teacher. If you wait till the end of the marking period, it will be TOO LATE. The teacher is available to help you understand so you can be successful in this class. By signing this syllabus you agree with the expectations set for the class, and will work to meet the expectations.

Student Name: ________________________________ Signature: ____________________________
Parent Name: ________________________________ Signature: ____________________________
What is the best phone number to reach you? __________________________________________
If you have an email address: ______________________________________________________

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