**American Literature I: Grade 10 Syllabus 2019-2020**

**Ms. Dorothy Simon**

The goals of this course are to improve language literacy on all levels: writing, reading, verbal presentation, listening, technology skills, and theater while exploring the development of American Literature from the earliest Native American oral texts to literature of the Civil War.

The following is an overview of the literary texts that may be covered. Changes will be made as needed. Books/ novels listed are suggested, and may be moved/replaced with other books.

The skills follow the Board Approved Course of Study.

In addition to classwork, homework, quizzes, tests, essays and projects, at the end of each Marking Period students will be tested on the skills covered.

**Unit I: The Beginnings**

Part 1: Native American Literature

“The Sun Still Rises in the Same Sky”

“The Sky Tree”

“The Earth Only”

“The House Made of Dawn”

“Coyote Finishes his Work”

“The Origin of Stories” (Heath)

BOOK:  *Last of the Mohicans* James Fennimore Cooper (1826)

Part 2: Early Settlers—the Puritans

William Bradford: “Of Plymouth Plantation”

Mary Rowlandson: “A Narrative of the Captivity”

Anne Bradstreet: “Here Follows..”

Edward Taylor: “Huswifery”

BOOK: *The Crucible*—(in class)

Part 3: Early Settlers—the South

William Byrd: “The History of the Dividing Line”

Part 4: Settlers Against their Will—Slavery

**UNIT II: Building the Ideas of the New America**

Part 1: The Great Men:

BOOK: Benjamin Franklin: *The Autobiography*  (book)

Thomas Jefferson: The Autobiography: The Declaration of Independence

Part 2: The Great Rhetorics:

Jonathan Edwards: “Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God”

Patrick Henry: “Speech to the Virginia Convention”

Thomas Paine: “The Crisis, No 1

BOOKS: *Dime Western* and *Dandelion Wine*

**UNIT III: American Romanticism**

Washington Irving: “Rip Van Winkle”

Fireside Poets:

William Cullen Bryant: “Thanatopsis”

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow: “The Tide Rises, The Tide Falls,” “The Cross of Snow,” other.

John Greenleaf Whittier: “Snow-Bound: A Winter Idyll”

Oliver Wendell Holmes: “The Chambered Nautilus,” “Old Ironsides”

**UNIT IV: The American Renaissance—the Shift to AMERICAN Literature**

**Individuality and Identity…**

Ralph Waldo Emerson: “Nature,” “Self-Reliance” other

Henry David Thoreau: “Walden, or Life in the Woods”

BOOK: William Shakespeare: *Taming the Shrew*

**UNIT V: The Realms of Darkness—the Other side of Romanticism**

Adgar Allen Poe: “The Fall of the House of Usher”

“The Raven”

BOOK: Edgar Allen Poe: *The Gold-Bug and Other Stories*

Nathaniel Hawthorne: “The Minister’s Black Veil”

Herman Melville: from *Moby Dick*

BOOK: Herman Melville: *Bartleby and Benito Cereno*

**UNIT VI: AMERICAN poetry**

Part 1: Walt Whitman—multiple poems

Part 2: Emily Dickinson—multiple poems

**UNIT VII: Slavery’s Voices**

Frederick Douglass: from *The Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*

BOOK: Sojourner Truth: *The Narrative of Sojourner Truth*

**UNIT VIII: Rise of Realism— fiction**

BOOK: *The McGuffey Readers: Selections from the 1879 Edition*

Kate Chopin: “A Pair of Silk Stockings”

Ambrose Bierce: “An Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge”

Stephen Crane: “A Mystery of Heroism”

BOOK: Stephen Crane: *Red Badge of Courage*