

## AMERICAN LITERATURE AND WRITING--Course 23.0510722

Miss Charleen Klister

### OBJECTIVES

During this course you will learn to

- identify and explain the experiences and diverse traditions of American literature and culture
- identify and explain recurring themes dealt with by American writers
- interpret selections and identify characteristics of various literary periods and styles
- interpret selections by identifying characteristics of major American writers
- apply interpretation skills to the analysis of new material
- write as a means of learning
- write expository, persuasive, narrative, critical, and imaginative papers
- use the process of pre-writing, drafting, revising, proofreading, and conferencing to develop writing skills
- extend your oral and written vocabulary while practicing standardized test-taking techniques
- study and apply rules of American grammar, usage, and punctuation
- continue to develop note-taking skills
- identify and interpret your own place in the American experience

### ACTIVITIES

In order to achieve these objectives, you will

- read, discuss, and do written assignments on selections from *Elements of Literature: Fifth Course: Essentials of American Literature* (Holt, Rinehart and Winston) and various handouts
- write essays, narratives, poetry, reading logs, responses based on literature and on personal experience
- prepare and deliver orally an analysis of a writing and a creative project
- complete exercises and take tests on Units 1 through 9 in *Vocabulary Workshop, Level F*, (Sadlier-Oxford) during the first semester and Units 10 through 15 during the second semester
- study and take grammar tests as needed; apply rules of grammar and usage to your own writing; use *Grammar for Writing, Level Green* (Sadlier-Oxford), for study and for application to writing
- revise formal papers through group and conference times
- keep a notebook on class lectures, discussions, audiovisual aids, and reading
- read, discuss, and write about the following books, in addition to those assigned for summer reading:

#### 1st semester:

*Our Town* by Thornton Wilder

*The Crucible* by Arthur Miller

*A Separate Peace* by John Knowles

#### 2nd semester:

*Black Boy* by Richard Wright

*The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain

*The Open Boat* by Stephen Crane

*The Catcher in the Rye* by J. D. Salinger

*The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald

*A Raisin in the Sun* by Lorraine Hansberry

*Death of a Salesman* by Arthur Miller

### EVALUATION

60%=major tests, papers, reading logs, projects

20%=quizzes, class preparation, classwork and discussion

20%=final exam

***After reading the syllabus and the policy sheet, please sign and date the following form and return it to me. Thank you.***

I have read and consent to the syllabus and the policy sheet.

Parent/guardian signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Student signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_