



Course Name: Ethnic Literature  
Instructor: Chancellor Cole, M.Ed.  
Chancellor.Cole@hsv-k12.org  
Grades: 10-12

## PURPOSE/COURSE DESCRIPTION

Welcome, parents and students, to Ethnic Literature! This course encompasses African American Literature from its beginnings.

Students in this course are introduced to the works of African American individuals from the periods of slavery to the great Harlem Renaissance to the contemporary era. Through close readings of selected literary works, students will enhance and increase their development of literary and analytical skills. Reading selections will include fiction, nonfiction, drama, and poetry. The writing assignments will include the modes of exposition, literary analysis, narration, and description. There will be assignments of a more creative nature as well.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Texts:

- There is no required textbook for this course.
- Other appropriate novels throughout the year (TBA)

Supplies: The following supplies should be brought to class daily:

- Textbooks/ Laptops
- Notebook (three ring binder that may be shared with other classes)
- Loose-leaf paper
- Pens (blue or black only) (No essays written in pencil will be accepted!)

## HOMEWORK

Homework will be assigned as necessary but not every night. Additional homework will be assigned as needed for a particular class. \*\*Note: Reading IS homework! Expect quizzes on reading assignments.

## MAKE-UP WORK

Work missed due to an excused absence may be made up and turned in the day after the student returns. Tests must be completed within two weeks; make-up after school by appointment.

Work missed due to an unexcused absence may not be made up. It is the student's responsibility to find out if work was missed during his/her absence and complete it in a timely fashion.

## GRADING

**Grades will be assigned according to the following percentages for each nine weeks:**

- 60%: Summative Assessment (performance-based assessments, labs, projects, writing assessment, all of which directly reflect course standards)
- 40% In-Class assignments that directly reflect course standards and homework

### **Access to Current Student Grades:**

Grades will be updated weekly on I Now. Parents/ guardians can access this via parent portal located on the Huntsville City Schools district website. If a parent/ guardian is unable to access his/her child's grades on-line, he/ she may contact the school office for assistance.

## **ACADEMIC HONESTY**

Academic honesty is expected, and the school policy will be strictly enforced. Any student participating in any form of academic misconduct (i.e. cheating, plagiarism, etc.) will receive a zero for the assignment. Appropriate disciplinary actions will also be taken in any case of academic dishonesty.

## **TUTORING**

Tutoring is available after school upon request during my office hours and questions or comments are always welcome. Please feel free to email me with your concerns, as this is the fastest and most efficient way of communicating with me. Conferences are available upon request.

## **EXPECTATIONS**

- Please come to class on time and prepared to work.
- Leave disagreements at the door.
- Please be respectful of your peers and me.
- I expect you to participate in class discussions and group discussions. We can't have class without your input!
- Due to concerns regarding cell phones, all cell phones should be placed in a purse or bag **IN THE OFF POSITION** when in my classroom, unless I have explicitly told you otherwise. Phones will be collected during any tests. I don't want you to be tempted to quickly respond to a text.
- I also expect you to ask questions if you don't understand. Remember, I don't know that you aren't understanding a concept if you don't ask questions.

## **VIDEOCONFERENCING (LIVE INSTRUCTION SESSIONS):**

Students participating in videoconferencing sessions (live instruction) should always have the camera turned on. Students should use their school issued Google Account to access the Google Meet or Microsoft Teams sessions. Teachers will not admit students in the live sessions who use nicknames or unknown names as their screen name. All students should be fully dressed when appearing in a live instruction session. Proper behavior and decorum will be expected from all students logged into the videoconferences.

## **AREAS TO BE STUDIED**

### **I. First Quarter**

- A. Passages
- B. The African Literary Tradition
- C. The Beginnings of African American Literature

### **II. Second Quarter**

- A. Reconstruction to Renaissance
- B. The Harlem Renaissance
- C. From Renaissance to Mid-Forties
- D. Literary Analysis Paper (5-7 Pages)

### **III. Third Quarter**

- A. Contemporary Short Stories
- B. Contemporary Non-Fiction
- C. Contemporary Poetry

### **IV. Fourth Quarter**

- A. Contemporary Drama
- B. Contemporary African Literature
- C. The Novel

**Major Writing Areas (ACT Quality Core/ACOS Objectives)**

-Analysis of Major Works

**Other Areas**

-Critical Thinking Skills. – Technology Skills

-Cooperative Learning Skills -- Reading Comprehension Skills