**ENGLISH III
American Literature**

Mr. David G. Smith, M.A., M.F.A.
Room 209 • HHS E-mail: smithd@hempsteadisd.org

**Instructor Information**

**Conference Time:** Seventh Period (M•T•Th)

**Section Information**

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| **Section:** | English III: American Literature / English III: American Lit. AP |  |
| **Semester\Year:****Class Website** | Fall Semester 2017www.davidglensmith.com/hempstead | **Class Room Location:** room 209 |

**English III Overview**

This course builds on the skills students have already acquired and prepares them to perform increasingly
more sophisticated reading, writing, and thinking. The expectation is that students will be able to master the
course objectives laid out by the state and district. It is also expected that students will master skills needed to be
successful in post-high school education.

**Grading**

This class will follow Hempstead ISD policy of counting major grades for 60% and daily grades for 40%.
Semester grades will consist of nine-week period grades and a semester exam which counts 20% of the final grade.
More details of the grading policy can be found in the student handbook.

**Major grades will consist of**

* At least 2 comprehensive tests per six-weeks.
Test will contain a variety of objective and essay questions and will be timed
* In-class and out-of-class writing assignments (major essays)

**Daily grades will consist of**

* Class-work/home-work • Progress checks on major essays
* Notebook / Reading Journal • Twitter Account Activity
* Quizzes

**Homework**

Students will not have an excess of homework on a regular basis. However, work not completed in class and
studying for test should be attended to regularly.

**Supplies**

Students need pen, paper, and notebook in class each day.

**Average Day**

A typical class day will *roughly* follow this pattern:

 • Warm up / Bell Ringer (five minutes)
 • Teacher Demonstration (fifteen minutes)

 • Whole Class Discussion (five minutes)

 • Group Discussion (fifteen minutes)

 • Individual Reflection (five minutes)
 • Exit Ticket (five minutes)

**Policies**

**Attendance Requirements:**

Due to the nature of the course and the in-class exercises, communication with instructor is paramount.
Emergency situations do happen, but keep in mind: an absence is an absence regardless if the situation is medical or legal emergency. Budget your time accordingly.

**Late Paper/Missed Assignment Policy:**

Students will write on a daily basis. Some quantities of outside reading should be expected.

• The progress of this class depends on written assignments turned in on time.

• A 10-point grade reduction for all assignments submitted one (1) day after the due date;

• A 20-point grade reduction for all assignments submitted two (2) days after the due date;

• After that, the assignment will not be accepted for a grade and will receive a zero (0).

 **I do not accept e-mails with any assignment-attachments.**

• There will be numerous in-class assignments and group activities. Completing these assignments earn you
daily points.

• On the return day after an absence, make an appointment during Mr. Smith’s conference period to makeup work.
• Test and quizzes are expected to be made up on the return day. Likewise, late daily work must be made up on the
 return day during scheduled conference times. Work turned in beyond the conference period will be considered late
 and will be marked off 10 points per day.

• Academic dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism, etc.) will be dealt with according to HISD polices explained in the student
 handbook. Incidents will be reported to the appropriate assistant principal.

**Phone Policy:**

Under instructor’s guidelines, phones are permitted in class. However, phones must be silent during instruction segments.

**Academic Integrity Policy:**All student work for this course must be original to the student and original to the course. Clear evidence of academic dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism, etc.) will be dealt with according to HISD polices explained in the student handbook. Incidents will be reported to the appropriate assistant principal. Remember, unintended plagiarism is also considered plagiarism. Rhetorical formulas will be provided for to prevent such cases.

**Parent Contact**

The best way to contact me is through the school e-mail: smithd@hempsteadisd.org.

A Remind account has been set up for reminders concerning upcoming assignments, projects, or tests.

**Classroom Rules**

1. Students should be respectful of teacher, peers, and self.
 • limit phone use
 • raise hand if you have questions
 • value diverse opinions
2. Successful students will bring all supplies to class: notebook, pens or pencils.
3. Be sure to listen and follow directions closely.
4. Arrive on time—you only have a few minutes between classes!
5. The success of your group requires cooperation and positive attitudes.
6. Read ahead, be curious, and ask questions. If necessary, ask more questions.

***Updates to the syllabus will be posted online periodically.***