

American Literature A Pacing Guide

Houston Virtual

Units should not be made available until the beginning of the indicated time frame.

Unit 1 – Intersection in the New World (Weeks 1-5)

Lessons and Assessments:

- Course Overview
- Of Plymouth Plantation: Puritan Literature
- A Key into the Language of America: Analysis
- "To My Dear and Loving Husband" and "A Letter to Her Husband": Poetic Theme
- Quiz 1
- The Narrative of Captivity and the Restoration of Mrs. Mary Rowlandson: Literary Perspective
- "Remarks Concerning the Savages of North America": Franklin's Satire
- Quiz 2
- The Crucible: Hysteria and Propaganda
- The Crucible: Setting - Act I
- The Crucible: Characterization - Act II
- The Crucible: Themes - Act III
- The Crucible: Symbolism - Act IV
- The Crucible: Truth in Fiction
- Quiz 3
- The Crucible: Character Analysis
- The Crucible: Historical Context
- "The Selling of Joseph: A Memorial": Antislavery Argument
- "On Being Brought from Africa to America" and "To His Excellency General Washington": Poetic Structure
- Literary Criticism: Henry Louis Gates Jr.
- "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God": Diction, Imagery, Style
- Project: Argumentative Essay - "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God"
- Using References to Understand Archaic Language
- Quiz 4
- Test

Unit 2 – Becoming a Nation (Weeks 6-12)

Lessons and Assessments:

- Declaration of Independence, Bill of Rights, and "The Indian Burying Ground": American Identity
- "The Way to Wealth": Franklin's Style and Rhetoric
- Patrick Henry's Speech to the Virginia Convention: Rhetoric
- The American Crisis: Rhetoric and Tone
- Project: Persuasive Essay
- Quiz 1
- Declaration of Independence: Central Ideas and Word Meanings
- Declaration of Sentiments: Rhetoric and Inference
- Compare and Contrast: The Declaration of Independence and the Declaration of Sentiments
- Quiz 2
- Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom: Annotation and Meaning
- "What is an American?": Primary and Literary Sources
- The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano: Literary Nonfiction
- Quiz 3
- Federalist No. 10: Reasoning and Rhetoric
- Preamble and Bill of Rights: Purpose and Structure
- "The Star-Spangled Banner" and "Revolutionary Tea": Technical and Connotative Meaning
- Project: Research Paper: Significance of Early American Writings
- Sentence Structures in Archaic Writing
- Quiz 4
- Test

Unit 3 – American Romanticism (Weeks 13-18)

Lessons and Assessments:

- Reference Materials: Vocabulary Journal
- "Rip Van Winkle": Theme and Language
- "Young Goodman Brown": American Gothicism and Symbolism
- Project: Analytic Essay - "Young Goodman Brown"
- "The Black Cat": Inferences from the Text
- Quiz 1
- "Self-Reliance": Transcendentalism
- Summer on the Lakes: Themes
- "Song of Myself": Free Verse
- "Belle of Amherst": Structure and Meaning
- Quiz 2
- To William Lloyd Garrison: Inference and Historical Context
- Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass: Tone and Point of View
- "Civil Disobedience": Rhetoric and Structure
- "John Brown" Speech: Interpretation
- Quiz 3
- "Ain't I a Woman?": Abolitionists and Romanticism
- "The Two Offers": Inferring and Ellipses
- Quiz 5
- Test