



Naperville North High School

Course: American Studies

Mission	To educate students to be self-directed learners, collaborative workers, complex thinkers, quality producers, and community contributors. To equip students with knowledge and skills so they can be active global citizens, curious thinkers, and empathetic and compassionate human beings.
Course Description	<i>What does it mean to be an American?</i> This two-semester, interdisciplinary, team-taught course marries the development of major American literary movements and significant events in United States history. The course is organized around themes and essential questions, allowing students to gain a deeper understanding of important literary and historical issues. Students will examine the changing role of the individual while tracing the development of American ideals and institutions. Individual and team assignments will challenge students to address the course question. The class will be taught in a two-hour block and meets the requirements for a Communication Arts credit as well as the U.S. History requirement.
Student & Teacher Communication	Students should communicate directly with teachers regarding any questions or concerns. Teachers will make every effort to respond to emails and phone calls within 48 hours during the workweek. The best way to communicate with teachers is through email; however, if you haven't received a response in 48 hours, please resend the email or call their voicemail. Your email may have gone into the spam folder.
Course Priority Standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● RL.11-12.1 Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text, including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain.● RL.11-12.3 Analyze the impact of the author's choices regarding how to develop and relate elements of a story or drama (e.g., where a story is set, how the action is ordered, how the characters are introduced and developed).● W.11-12.2 Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.● W.11-12.1 Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.● W.11-12.7 Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question) or solve a problem; narrow or broaden the inquiry when appropriate; synthesize multiple sources on the subject, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.● SS.H.9.9-12 Analyze the relationship between historical sources and the secondary interpretations made from them.● SS.H.6.9-12 Analyze the concept and pursuit of the "American Dream".● SS.IS.3.11-12 Develop new supporting and compelling questions through investigation, collaboration, and using diverse sources.● SS.IS.4.9-12 Gather and evaluate information from multiple sources while considering the origin, credibility, point of view, authority, structure, context, and corroborative value of sources.
Grading Definitions	Practice is used to monitor students' learning to provide ongoing feedback that can be used by students to improve their learning. Examples may include the following: practice activities, homework, reading checks, discussion boards, etc. Evidence is used to evaluate student learning at the end of an instructional unit or segment of learning by comparing it against a standard or benchmark.

Grading Practices

No extra credit will be issued.

In Infinite Campus, a score of “Missing” (M) will indicate an assessment has not been turned in and the comments section will include a specific date by which students can still submit. After that date, a zero (0) will be recorded.

Work submitted after the original due date cannot be penalized more than a total of 10% a day and must be submitted no later than one week (5 school days) after the original due date.

If a legitimate attempt is made on a summative assessment within two weeks after the original due date, a score of 50% will be the lowest possible grade.

Work submitted after the original due date cannot be penalized more than a total of 10% a day and must be submitted no later than one week (5 school days) after the original due date.

Violations of the academic integrity policy will be consequence by the administration in collaboration with the department chair/teacher.

Grading Standards & Weight

Practice: (0%) / Evidence (100%)

Coursework 90%	Final Exam 10%
Reading Tests/ quizzes / Close Reading Assessments Visual Literacy Assessments / Extended Responses Process Essays (essays over an extended period of time) Timed Writings Academic Conversations / Group/Individual Presentations / Discussion Board	Quarter / Semester Project Final Project Final Presentation

Semester Grade = Coursework (90%) / Final Exam (10%)
A=100-90%, B=89-80%, C= 79-70%, D=69-60%, F=59-0%

Reassessment Policies

The purpose of reassessment is to allow students to demonstrate proficiency of course standards in which they remain deficient. Instructors can initiate the reassessment process when a student scores below 85% and one of the following scenarios applies:

- Practice work is not eligible for reassessment.
- Evidence of Learning work may be eligible for reassessment. Refer to the chart below for eligibility:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The assessment included multiple opportunities for feedback and improvement in the process for the final product OR formative assessments are aligned to standards, allow students to practice in the same assessment format, and gain feedback for improvement before the summative assessment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was timely and consistent completion of practice work and formative assessments. • A one-time performance on an assessment does not reflect the student’s level of proficiency leading up to the assessment. • Summative assessment score is below 85%.
Not eligible for reassessment	Eligible for reassessment if all three statements above are true.

Reassessment Parameters:

- The reassessment opportunity will require designated learning experiences that demonstrate readiness as assigned by the teacher.
- Reassessments MUST be completed within 5 school days of the student receiving feedback unless otherwise determined by the instructor. The reassessment deadline should be communicated in an IC comment.
- The final reassessment score will be capped at 85%

Support and Resources

Mr. Platt and Mr. Stanicek are available between 6:30-7:30 by appointment on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday mornings (*Mr. Stanicek will be in room 245/Mr. Platt will be in room 103*), but can rarely meet after school due to coaching and family obligations. Additionally, we are available during 5th period in whatever lunch room we supervise. This information has yet to be determined but will be made available to students upon assignment. Drop in for peer tutor during lunch periods or before school through the Literacy Center.

Parents and Guardians Partnership

Naperville North believes in a collective partnership with parents/guardians which provides students the best opportunities for success. Some ways parents/guardians can support their student's learning are the following:

Actively check Infinite Campus for grade updates.

- Infinite Campus is a tool to progress monitor student work until final course grades are posted.
- Monthly progress grades are posted and represent the current grade of a student in the course at that moment in time.
- Discuss missing assignments, reiterate due dates, help organize folders, materials, assignment notebooks, and review upcoming projects and assessments.

Films

This course may utilize the use of films to support the learning targets and essential standards of the course. Any permission slip will be sent home (via hardcopy or through Infinite Campus) for any film that is Rated R and an alternative assignment and/or learning experience will be provided for students who choose not to view the film.

Field Trips

The field trips are designed to enrich the learning experience of the students to make more solid connections to the content of the course. **The field trips, while such great learning experiences, are a privilege.** Students must be passing all of their classes and in compliance with our attendance policy in order to qualify for the field trip experience.

D203 AI Belief Statement

At Naperville North High School, we strive to build a learner's mindset in all students, developing qualities such as adaptability, communication, critical thinking, and global citizenship. Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI), offers new opportunities to engage with important technology relevant to the future that also raises significant educational considerations. AI tools provide unique ways to engage students in the learning process, hence we encourage our staff to guide students in using AI responsibly. Teachers have the authority to establish guidelines for AI use in their classrooms, setting clear expectations for how AI can be used on learning tasks. Concurrently, we recognize that reliance on AI risks replacing genuine student engagement and original thought, undermining the attributes we aim to cultivate. Striking a balance between leveraging AI tools effectively and maintaining educational standards is crucial to the learning experience of each student.

Academic Integrity

District 203 students are challenged to address the academic process enthusiastically, diligently, and most importantly, honestly. It is the responsibility of our students, teachers, and administration to uphold the fundamental academic values of honesty, responsibility, fairness, respect and trust. The integrity of our district's academic programs is built upon these principles.

Academic integrity violations include cheating, plagiarism, self-plagiarism or copy infringement, obtaining or providing an unfair advantage, using a writing service and/or AI in place of original work unless specifically authorized by staff, falsification of documents, unauthorized access to records, and inappropriate collaboration, whether intentional or unintentional. The classroom teacher and administration will collaborate and exercise professional judgment in determining academic integrity violations.

Plagiarism

What is it?

The taking of another person's ideas and passing them off as your own.

When am I guilty of plagiarism?

Whenever using someone else's ideas (while speaking, writing, direct quoting, or paraphrasing) and not crediting that person for their ideas/words, whether it was done INTENTIONALLY OR THROUGH CARELESSNESS.

Self-plagiarism: Submitting identical or substantial portions of similar work for credit more than once, without prior explicit consent from the instructor

What happens when I am caught plagiarizing?

- **LEVEL ONE:** Plagiarizing practice work (daily homework, etc.)
 - **CONSEQUENCES:** Referral, parent contact, detention, letter placed in discipline file

- **LEVEL TWO:** Plagiarizing Evidence of Learning work (essays, exams, etc.)—a level two violation consequence will be issued if you have multiple level one violations.
 - **CONSEQUENCES:** Referral, parent contact, detention, letter placed in discipline file, academic consequence, notification to honor societies, class level change, etc.

- **LEVEL THREE:** Theft, sale, or distribution of materials that can be used to gain an unfair advantage or falsify a grade—a level three violation consequence will be issued if you have multiple level two violations.
 - **CONSEQUENCES:** All level two consequences apply in addition to suspension or expulsion from school. The consequence will be determined during a meeting with the dean, teacher, parent, and student.

Cell Phone Policy

- Phones are NOT allowed and should be put away (not on desk or in pocket) during class.
- Earbuds NOT allowed unless specific permission given by the teacher.
- Bathroom = leave phone on desk or teacher desk.
- Failure to adhere to these policies will result in a behavioral referral.