

## Turnitin.com Information

My Class Period:  
Class ID:  
Enrollment Code:

## American Studies, 2022-2023

TEACHERS: Mr. Mueh - History & Ms. Drake - English

### PURPOSE(S) OF THE COURSE:

Though the History and English courses at The Classical Academy (TCA) both teach content from the United States, the connections between the two subjects are often loose. One of the main purposes of American Studies is to emphasize those connections.

A second purpose is to better tie literature into the context of history and to recognize the intended audiences of the writers, speakers, and artists of the documents we will work with, as well as identifying their points of view and intentions. In doing so, we intend to help you improve your skills as a researcher and learner and become a scholar.

The third purpose is to bring teachers together in collaboration who often pass as strangers, though they teach largely the same subjects. In other words, it's so Mr. Mueh and Ms. Drake can learn from each other while teaching you. We like to learn too.

We hope you enjoy the course. It is yours. We look forward to your contributions: to the constructive ideas and energies each of you will bring to make this course unique and memorable.

### TEXTS:

Baym, Nina, et al, eds. *The Norton Anthology of American Literature: Shorter 8<sup>th</sup> Edition, Vol. 2.* W.W. Norton & Company, 2013.

Frohnen, Bruce, ed. *The American Nation: Primary Sources.* Liberty Fund, 2008.

---. *The American Republic: Primary Sources.* Liberty Fund, 2002.

Heffner, Richard, and Alexander Heffner, eds. *A Documentary History of the United States: Expanded and Updated Edition.* Penguin Group, 2013.

A large number of primary and secondary source documents, literary and not, pulled from various corners, too numerous to list here will also be included, as well as your English novels.

### CLASS EXPECTATIONS

- You must meet with Ms. Drake about writing at least once this semester.
- Come prepared. There will always be something for you to prepare for each period the night before. It will be the exception, rather than the rule, that Mr. Mueh and Ms. Drake assign identical preparation work. If you come prepared each day, your experience in the course will be significantly better than if you do not, as will the results you achieve.
- Come with all of your materials. You are juniors in an honors class. This is really a minimum expectation.

- Come on time. On time doesn't mean bursting through the door as the bell rings. It means you are ready to go, materials out, when the bell rings. There is a significant difference.
- Challenge yourself. Yes, we expect you to manage your time as you go through the course, but if doing so means you don't push yourself to find new things and develop new skills outside of the classroom, you are "doing it wrong."
- Challenge your colleagues, civilly. When you hear an idea in the classroom that makes no sense to you, or that you believe to be mistaken, challenge it, regardless of the source. We are all learning to think and communicate our thoughts. To use a metaphor, think of class as practice. How many times have you made mistakes in practice? Does making mistakes in practice mean you are stupid? No. Does recognizing the mistake help you avoid it next time, when it matters, in the game, the meet, the match, the recital? Yes. Just do it, but do it civilly.
- Leave the room cleaner than you found it.
- Leave the outside world at the door. We do care about what is going on in your life, as do your friends in class. The time we have each day in class is not the proper time for anyone to hear about it. During class, the appropriate focus is the course. Please help us stay focused on the task at hand.

ITEMS WE WOULD LIKE YOU TO BRING BY 4 SEPTEMBER 2020:

**For Mr. Mueh**, who needs to replenish his supplies at the beginning of each year.

- We will figure out in class who is bringing the following items.
  - Paper towels: 1 roll.
  - Kleenex: 1 box.
  - Hand sanitizer: 1 bottle.
  - Windex (or some other cleaner): 1 bottle.
- I need these from each of you.
  - White board markers: 2, thick tipped please. You will find that writing on the board is somewhat integral to my teaching. Black is my least favorite color, as it really makes a mess of the board. Blue and purple are the best. Of course, I will take what I can get.

**For Ms. Drake:**

Required for class:

- Purchase of class texts. All students are required to have new copies of class texts for annotations, notes, etc. Used copies (siblings or others) are not permitted. If finances are a concern, please talk to the instructor or an administrator, and arrangements for new texts will be made. Please make sure to pay the appropriate fee in payforit.
- Notebook (binder) with paper
- Pikes Peak Library card with PIN number

- box of tissues
- hand sanitizer
- tea and styrofoam cups (welcome, but not required)
- Personal copy of whatever book is chosen for the research project, so the student can take notes and highlight the copy. When possible, get a critical edition, which comes with analysis and notes. Be cautious of “fraudulent editions” that are not produced by the legitimate publisher. Hint: those are usually the cheapest books on Amazon. Used copies are acceptable, but do make sure it’s a legitimate publisher. I will ask you to bring in your copy at a certain point during the year.

### MATERIALS YOU NEED FOR CLASS:

#### For Mr. Mueh

- A 1.5”-2” binder FOR EACH SEMESTER. Larger may be better because of the sheer number of reading handouts in the course, but don’t buy a 3” monstrosity.
- A set of five tabs. Each semester there will be four units. There will also be a research project. Label your tabs appropriately.
- Reinforced paper. The unreinforced holes just rip out too easily. You will thank me later, when your notes are not all ripped out at the end of the semester.
- Other obvious things like writing implements, erasers, etc.

#### For Ms. Drake

- A 1.5”-2” binder FOR EACH SEMESTER. Larger may be better because of the sheer number of reading handouts in the course. You may combine this binder with history if you choose.
- A Pikes Peak library card with PIN

### YOUR GRADE:

- You will receive one combined grade for both periods/subjects. In the interest of preparing students for college (where such categories as “classwork” will not exist), grades for American Studies are NOT weighted. However, students can expect that more difficult tasks, such as research papers and exams, will have more points assigned to them and therefore have a natural “weight”. More detail will be explained to students as the year progresses. It will be broken down into the following weighted categories:
 

○ Essays, projects, research	30%
○ Tests & quizzes	35%
○ Participation & Classwork	15%
○ Semester Exam	20%

RESEARCH PROJECT (History & English):

Your instructors this year are refining a new project which is a synthesis of history and literature. We call it the *Zeitgeist* project and you will receive a separate hand-out and information soon. It is a large project that we expect to be a reflection of the deep, contextual analysis of the written word you learn throughout the year. Be prepared to choose a novel to read independently and be equipped to research the ideas and historical context it conveys.

HOMEWORK / MAKE-UP POLICY

- A. All work is due in the designated area when the bell rings to begin class. Work submitted after class begins is considered late, and will be penalized according to TCA policy (attached) unless you have discussed a reason with the instructor in advance. In the case of illness, work is due the day of return. In the case of a planned absence (sports, family visit, etc.), work should be submitted in advance. With digital turn-ins as a part of turnitin.com, this problem for major papers should be easier than previous years. For example, if a student leaves school early for a sports activity, the paper must be submitted that day before the student leaves.
- B. Homework (and all other work) will be evaluated on content, mechanics, and presentation. Typing is mandatory for papers. Arial or Times New Roman script in size 12 font is required. Handwritten assignments and tests must be in pencil, blue or black ink.
- C. Homework (and all other work) must include the required MLA heading and title (see example also on board in front of room).

Example:

**Last name 1**

**First name Last name**

**Ms. Drake / Mr. Mueh**

**English 11, Period 7**

**4 September 2022**

**Summer Days**

**Those “lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer” *almost* describes . . .**

- D. If a quiz or test is missed, according to the TCA handbook, a student has a week to make it up. If serious illness or family concerns are involved, an extension may be arranged. Arrangements are the responsibility of the student. Students need to make an appointment with one of us to figure out how to make up the missed quiz or test.
- E. It is not the policy of these instructors to accept “extra credit.” If a student completes all assignments as required, and participates well in class, they will successfully complete this course.

### PLAGIARISM / CHEATING

Plagiarism is *“using someone else’s words or ideas without giving proper credit—or without giving any credit at all—the writer of the original. Whether plagiarism is intentional or unintentional, it is a serious offense . . .”* (Trimmer, Joseph. *A Guide to MLA Documentation*. 5<sup>th</sup> edition. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1999. 25).

Plagiarism is a form of cheating, and contrary to all integrity values held at TCA. All plagiarism at 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade at TCA results in a zero for the assignment and further official discipline measures may be taken (policy attached). Please refer to the student handbook for details, as well as the writing handbook, and the graphic below.

### EMERGENCIES

If a problem with an assignment, test, etc. arises, we are very open to discussing a flexible schedule, if the student comes at least 2 days in advance to discuss the problem. We are not open to flexibility the morning of the assignment, or after the assignment is due. Obviously, an uncontrollable emergency such as a sports accident or a family trauma is a different situation, and all necessary accommodations will be made.

While it is recognized that computer technology is arbitrary and unsympathetic, students are strongly advised not to wait until the last minute to print up an assignment that has been given ample advance notice. Students are encouraged to be finished 24 hours ahead, planning for the unexpected. Computer or printer issues are not valid excuses for late work, if the assignment has been given more than 24 hours in advance of the due date. Turn-It-In.com should prevent many printer errors from impacting your lives, but plan ahead because Mr. Mueh wants a printed copy, too.

## EXTRA HELP

*If outside help is needed for any reason, please ask for an appointment.* Addressing complicated questions about grades or explaining difficulties with assignments between classes, when time is very short, is difficult for both students and instructors. Please make an appointment so we have the time necessary to help all I can, and to give full attention to issues.

**Parents**, please assist your student in assuring that the computer and printer (also ink and paper) will be available to her / him when s/he needs it. Obviously, other people in your home may need the computer, so encourage your student not to wait until the last minute to type up assignments. All essays and research papers must be typed. Please note that these assignments are given with plenty of notice, long in advance of due dates, so computer issues are not acceptable excuses for late submissions. We encourage students to have assignments typed and submitted to Turnitin.com at least 24 hours in advance, in case there are technical problems. They will save themselves a lot of agony for college (and careers!) if they learn to plan for the unexpected and give themselves plenty of time.

THANK YOU.

We know you chose to pursue this course of study. We are excited that you have. We look forward to the coming year.

Mr. Kurt Mueh [kmueh@asd20.org](mailto:kmueh@asd20.org) room 1110

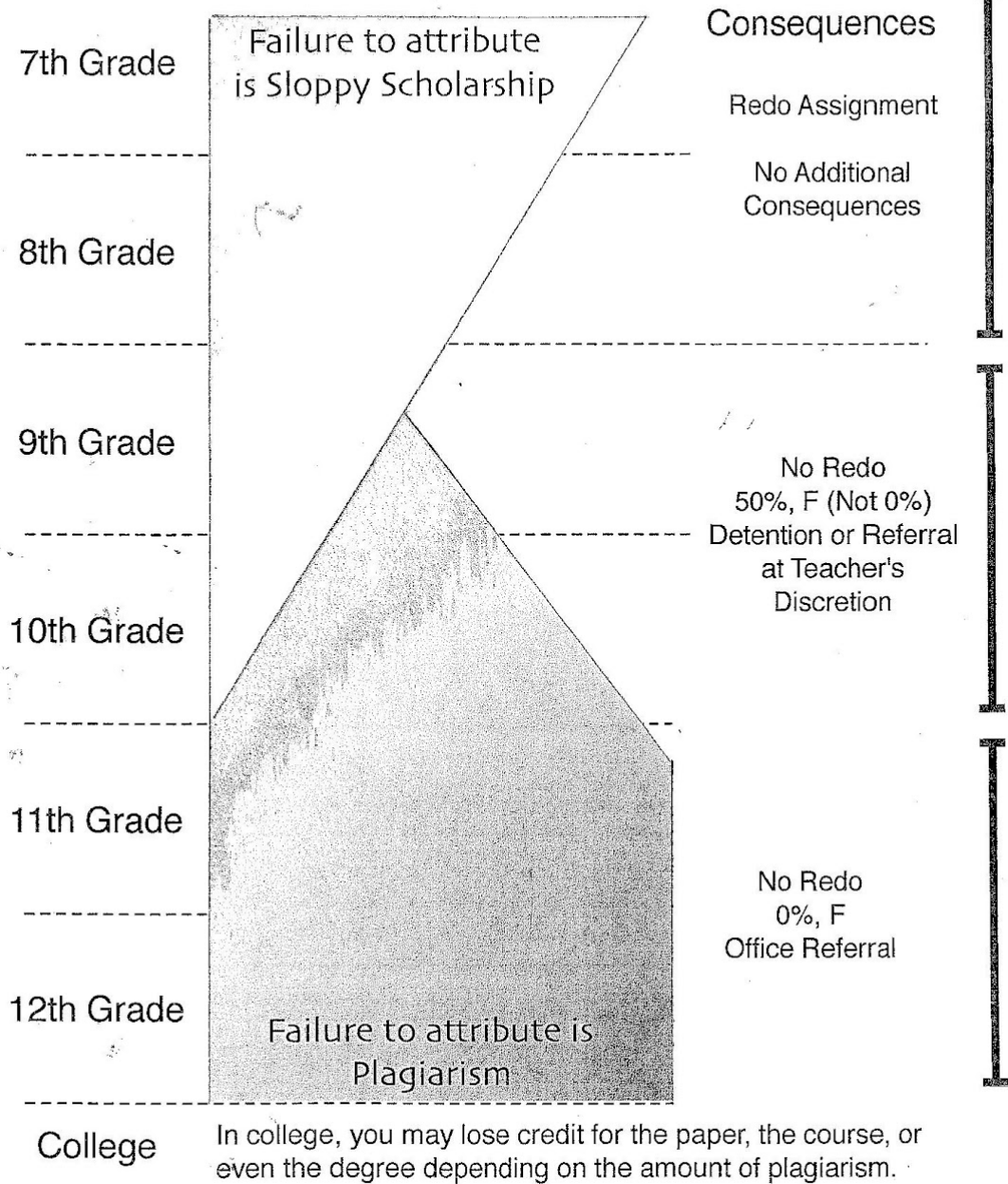
Do not leave me voicemail: I check email regularly. I never see my phone blinking. Please use email.

Ms. Michelle Drake [mdrake@asd20.org](mailto:mdrake@asd20.org) room 1109

E-mail preferred.

**Please sign the accompanying page and return it ASAP. Thank you!**

TCA is committed to honest scholarship, especially honoring original authors with proper attribution. Any information that is not common knowledge must be attributed to the original source with a citation. As students develop their understanding of this expectation, both the characterization of non-attribution and the consequences become more severe.



## TCA Secondary – Late Work Guidelines

***In the application of the late policy penalty, it is the responsibility of the student to self-advocate, and the teacher to consider the circumstances.***

***Daily/Short-term/Homework:*** Work that is usually completed overnight (or within a week of assignment); usually worth less than 1% of total semester grade:

- All courses (other than math):
  - 1+ day late: 20% penalty off of graded assignment
  - Students will be allowed to turn in homework after the due date, but by the end of the unit/chapter.
  - After the unit/chapter: 0% credit
  - Math:
    - 1+ day late: 50% penalty off of graded assignment
    - After test: 0% credit

***Labs/Long-term/Projects:*** Work that is usually assigned at least 1-2 weeks prior to the due date; usually worth a significant percentage of the student's overall semester grade:

- 1+ day late: 20% penalty off of graded assignment
  - Grades 7/8 (up to 7 days)
  - Grades 9/10 (up to 5 days)
  - Grades 11/12 (up to 3 days)
- After days indicated: 0% credit

### ***Grade Penalty Reference***

<b><i>Full Credit (%)</i></b>	<b><i>20% Penalty (%)</i></b>
100	80
90	72
80	64
70	56



*I have read the American Studies syllabus and the TCA Plagiarism and Late Work policies and understand what is expected of me. I have completed the summer reading of *Uncle Tom's Cabin* and *The Crucible*.*

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student's name, printed

signature

date

I have read the American Studies syllabus and the TCA Plagiarism and Late Work policies and I understand what is expected of my student with regards to academic integrity and responsibility. I confirm s/he has done the assigned summer reading of *Uncle Tom's Cabin* and *The Crucible*.

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parent's name, printed

signature

date

***THANK YOU SO MUCH! -- K. Mueh and M. Drake***