



### Teacher Information

*Email:* hmason@paradiseschools.org

*Room Number:* B124

*Tutoring Hours:* Monday, 3-3:30

*Website:* <https://helenmasonphhs.weebly.com/>

### Course Description

The course is devoted to studying American literature from the colonial period to the late twentieth century. Because much of the early literature is nonfiction (diaries, letters, sermons, almanacs, speeches, and foundational documents), there are many opportunities to analyze historical and informational texts. Throughout the year, students have opportunities to make connections with history, art, and other subjects. Essays range from the analytical to the creative: students might write a narrative essay in the style of Thoreau's *Walden* or compare the treatment of a given theme in works from different genres. Students build on their writing skills from previous years, integrating multiple sources and perspectives into their work, reading literary criticism, and writing longer and more complex essays. Class fee \$25 for year.

### Course Expectations

1. Write informative research essays that incorporate internal citations, direct quotes, utilize primary and secondary sources, and include a works cited page.
2. Analyze and evaluate elements and themes of fiction and nonfiction literature.
3. Interpret and formulate judgments about a piece of literature and support those judgments with convincing, textual evidence.
4. Effectively engage in group discussions.
5. Advance language and vocabulary skills critical to college and career readiness.

### Pacing Guide

Q1: Introduction to Rhetorical Analysis

Q2: Introduction to American Literature/Narrative Elements

Q3: Thematic Analysis

Q4: Literature-Based Project Based Learning

### School-wide Expectations

#### Google Classroom

All classrooms utilize Google Classroom to share documents, collect assignments and communicate with students. Students are responsible for posted due dates and are expected to check Google Classroom daily.

#### Academic honesty

Plagiarism includes the act of intentionally using information or property of another or knowingly sharing academic information to gain an unfair advantage. To steal and pass off the ideas or words of another as one's own. Discipline for academic dishonesty may result in a loss of credit for the assignment and up to a 5-day suspension.

#### Passes & Tardies

You must be in your assigned seat starting bellwork at the bell. If you are not in the door by the time the last bell rings, you will be marked tardy.



Passes will not be given to students in the 5 minutes in the beginning nor the 5 minutes at the end of the class period except in extreme circumstances. Passes to the restroom/water fountain will be given to one student at a time. Please limit the amount of time you are out of class by going to the restroom/water fountain during the passing period. You must have your ID to receive a pass out of class unless there is an emergency situation.



**Preparedness**

Please bring all necessary supplies and assignments to class each day. When you enter the classroom, sit in your assigned seat and begin bellwork immediately.



**Electronic Devices**

All students have been provided a Chromebook. Any technology use will be limited to the Chromebook. All personal cell phones, headphones, etc. should be in your bag and out of sight. Please be sure to silence all devices before putting them away. Students will be expected to handle their assigned Chromebook in accordance with school norms and procedures.



**Attendance**

Students are strongly encouraged to attend class regularly. If a student has an excused absence it is the student's responsibility to complete any assignment, quiz or exam that was missed. Per Arizona Revised Statute 15-802, 15-803, a student who is absent from any given class 10% or more either excused or unexcused, per year may not receive academic credit for that class.

**School-wide Academic Policies**

**School-wide Late Work Policy**

Late work is defined as any work completed and turned in after a designated due date. Late work will be accepted up to **TWO DAYS AFTER THE DESIGNATED DUE DATE FOR THE WORK**. Extended time may be given due to extenuating circumstances such as major family illness, car accidents, etc. However, **NO LATE WORK** will be accepted one week prior to the end of the quarter.

<b>Work turned in on time</b>	<b>Full earned credit</b>
<b>Work turned in one day late</b>	<b>75% of earned credit</b>
<b>Work turned in two days late</b>	<b>50% of earned credit</b>
<b>Work turned in three or more days late</b>	<b>0% of earned credit</b>

**School-wide Make Up Work Policy**

Make up work is defined as any assignments or tests students need to complete due to an excused absence. Students will be allowed the same amount of days equal to the number of excused absence days to make up assignments for full credit.

**Suggested Supplies**

Students are expected to show up prepared and ready to learn every day of class. This includes bringing all materials! In addition to the PHHS universal supply list that includes:

- Pen/Pencil
- Paper
- Highlighter
- Colored pencils
- Notecards

You will need:

- Sticky notes
- Loose leaf paper for essays
- Colored pens, markers, or pencils
- Somewhere to store papers distributed in class (three-ringed binder with tab dividers or two-pocket folder)
- Spiral notebook for note taking

Texts: Students will be provided with a grade-level textbook paid for by the student course fee. Over the course of the year students will engage with a number of contemporary and classic novels, poetry, drama, and nonfiction sources. Texts will be provided, but students are welcome to purchase their own copy if they would like to be able to annotate the text or read at home.

- A note about our reading materials: Juniors will be reading a variety of fiction and nonfiction, some of which may contain topics and language of a sensitive nature, such as violence, death, racism, and sexism. We at Paradise Honors High School do not endorse these ideas and concepts, and these instances are infrequent. All texts are recommended by the Common Core State Standards Initiative for Grades 11-12 and/or the College Board. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

*Arizona law requires that public schools provide supplies required for academic success. The majority of the supplies your child will use in the classroom will be provided by the school. The above is a wish list of optional items desired for each student in each grade level. Any student unable to bring any of the listed items will be provided with supplies.*

**Please return promptly.**

**Student/Parent Acknowledgement**

Student Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_  
Class Period \_\_\_\_\_

*I have read this course syllabus and understand class policies and procedures and will make a commitment in my responsibilities to support them.*

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ (student)

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ (parent/guardian)

**Information provided by the Parent/Guardian: (Required)**

**Parent/Guardian Names: (PLEASE PRINT)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email** \_\_\_\_\_

**Daytime phone(s)** \_\_\_\_\_

Does your PHHS student have any special needs that I should know about?

Is there any other information you feel I should be aware of?

**Thank you!**  
**I look forward to getting to know you this year.**  
**If you have any questions, feel free to email me.**