

**Providence Career & Technical Academy**  
**American Literature**  
**Syllabus**

**Instructor Name:** N. Holgate, T. Finlay, A. Rhoades

**Time Frame: 2021-2022**

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**Course Description**

The Grade 12 Core ELA Units take students through literary and nonfiction texts that explore how individuals experience and enact changes in their environment and in themselves. Unit 1, What's Next?, examines life after high school, and beyond. Unit 2, Uncovering Truth, focuses on how challenges cause individuals to reveal their true selves. Unit 3, Against the Wind, asks students to consider how various leaders fight for their ideas, while Unit 4, Sculpting Reality, asks students to reflect on the unit's driving question—what is the power of story?

**Common Core Standards Addressed:** Instruction Reading: Literature Reading: Informational Writing Speaking and Listening Language Genre RI.11-12.10 Academic Vocabulary L.11-12.6 SyncStart: The New 'Golden Age' TV Shows RI.11-12.1, RI.11-12.3, RI.11-12.4, RI.11-12.10 W.11-12.4, W.11-12.5 SL.11-12.1.A-D, SL.11-12.6 L.11-12.4.A Community Colleges vs. Technical Schools Overcoming Impostor Syndrome RI.11-12.2, RI.11-12.5, RI.11-12.9 The Metamorphosis RL.11-12.1, RL.11- 12.4, RL.11-12.5 L.11-12.5.B What's Next? Podcast Series (Episodes 1-3) Bird By Bird We Choose to Go to the Moon RI.11-12.6, RI.11-12.8 SL.11-12.3 What's Next? Podcast Series (Episodes 4-6) How Much Indian Was I? Commencement Address at Wellesley College Plessy v. Ferguson RI.11-12.4, RI.11-12.6, RI.11-12.8 Booster Staff Investigates What's Next? Podcast Series (Episodes 7-9) Vocabulary Review L.11-12.6 Self-Selected Reading Blasts Timed Writing W.11-12.2.A, W.11-12.4, W.11- 12.10 Plan W.11-12.2.A, W.11-12.4, W.11-12.5 Draft W.11-12.2.A, W.11-12.2.B, W.11- 12.4, W.11-12.5 Revise W.11-12.2.A, W.11-12.2.C, W.11- 12.2.D, W.11-12.2.F, W.11-12.5 Edit and Publish W.11-12.2.A, W.11-12.2.E, W.11- 12.5, W.11-12.6 L.11-12.1, L.11-12.2, L.11- 12.2.B, L.11-12.3.A

**Required Textbooks, Reading and Supplementary Materials** *StudySync Reading and Writing Companion Workbook.*

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**Assignment and Examination Schedule**

What We'll Be Doing This Year:

Quarter One	Quarter Two	Quarter Three	Quarter Four
Thematic Unit: "What's Next?" Paired Thematic Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "Community Colleges vs. Technical Schools"</li> <li>• "Overcoming Imposter Syndrome"</li> <li>• The Metamorphosis</li> <li>• "Bird by Bird: Some Instructions on Writing and Life"</li> <li>• "We Choose to Go to the Moon"</li> <li>• "How Much Indian Was I?, My Fellow Students Asked"</li> <li>• "Commencement Address at Wellesley College"</li> </ul> End of Unit Writing Assignment: November 1-10	Thematic Unit: "Uncovering Truth" Paired Thematic Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beowulf</li> <li>• "Shakespeare: The World as Stage"</li> <li>• "Hamlet and His Problems"</li> <li>• Hamlet</li> </ul> End of Unit Writing Assignment January 18-27	Novel Unit:  <i>1984</i> by George Orwell  End of Unit Culminating Writing Assignment March 28-April 6	Novel Unit:  <i>A Long Walk to Freedom</i> by Nelson Mandela  End of Unit Writing Assignment June 1-17

**Grading Policy:**

Students are encouraged to come to class prepared, do their homework and participate in all class activities. However, in an effort to measure students' true knowledge only assessments will be used to calculate the score of all students. Assessments are end of units, end of chapters, projects, tests and quizzes. Summative assessments are worth **60 %** and formative assessments are **30%** of students' final grade. Homework, however, can be counted as **10%** of the assessment that it supports. Any student who obtains a score of less than 70% in any classroom assessment will be qualified to retake the assessment *only after he/she completes all necessary preparatory assignments.*

**PCTA English Language Department**

**Prior to RTII**

1. The ELA department shall identify on a regular basis any student who has frequent absences, several missed assignments, and is performing at levels indicating a need for intervention from the STAR screening report.
2. Once a student has been identified for RTII a meeting between the student, their guidance counselor, and the teacher to evaluate the student's lack of performance in class. This meeting will allow the student and the instructor to produce a comprehensive plan to bring the

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student up to an appropriate performance level. The student will be placed in the credit recovery online model, OdysseyWare.

3. If the student does not comply within two weeks, a meeting will occur between the student, guidance, and the student's parent to discuss further steps.

**RTII Plan**

1. The ELA department will monitor STAR screening scores to assess which students are reading below grade level.
2. Once a student has been identified, the ELA teacher will fill out the RTII form on Skyward.
3. Teachers will place identified students on a sharable spreadsheet. The responsible party in the ELA department will make regular check ins to see how students are progressing.
4. A meeting will be scheduled with the RTII team to discuss further actions to create a comprehensive plan for student success.
5. Once the student has tested through STAR that they read at the appropriate grade level, the student will be exited out of RTII.