



FIND YOUR VOICE. SPEAK YOUR MIND.

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## 11<sup>th</sup> grade Humanities

**Junior English Humanities** focuses on American Literature, beginning with the Puritans and ending with the Post-Modernists. In the class, the students are asked to carefully annotate a great variety of texts, many of them dense in challenging vocabulary and syntax. The class is discussion based and frequently student led, utilizing rhetorical analysis to analyze text. Writing assignments are diverse, but there is a focus on analytical writing and research-based writing, with a goal of mastery by the end of the year. The experience is augmented by an extensive study of vocabulary and participation in a class blog. Texts considered include *The Scarlet Letter*, *Walden*, *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, and *The Great Gatsby*.

**US History** - This course focuses on the shaping of the American identity through the history of the American “other.” Rather than a narrative of American history through the eyes of the privileged, this course considers the progress of America from the perspective of Native Americans, women, African Americans, the poor, and immigrants. These groups often clash with the standard view of US history, and they also often clash with one another. What we will consider throughout US History is the large question of how the dispossessed, the underclass, and the disenfranchised have shaped modern American identity, paying particularly close attention to examples in our history which are still relevant today.