**Instructor: Ms. Daugaard**

**Email:** **tanisha.daugaard@k12.sd.us**

## Course Description:

Students will study examples of American literature, including historical literature, drama, short stories, poetry, and novels. They will learn vocabulary, literary terms, and background material from all areas of American literature. Written assignments will include short research papers and essays. Independent reading, grammar, and vocabulary usage will be developed throughout each week of the course.

## Instruction:

Instruction will be done through a variety of methods. Students will participate in small and large group discussions, individual work, group work, various types of presentations, note-taking, article reviews, peer editing, journaling, online tools and assessments, as well as other methods of providing a hands-on learning experience.

## Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is a serious offense. Papers that have been *intentionally* plagiarized (downloaded from internet, copied from peer, etc.) will receive a zero; students may be subject to further disciplinary action in addition to receiving zero credit. Unintentional plagiarism (failure to cite sources) will be handled on a case-by-case basis, based on the extent of the plagiarized material. Prior to writing research papers, students will be given thorough instruction about how to properly cite sources and avoid the unintentional stealing of copyrighted ideas and words.

## Assessment:

Students will be assessed in the following categories: Daily Work, Tests/Quizzes, Projects and Presentations, and Written Assessments. The grading scale below will be used to determine a student’s grade.

Grading Scale

 100 A+

95-100 A 79-83 C

 93-94 A- 77-78 C-

 91-92 B+ 75-76 D+

 88-90 B 72-74 D

 86-87 B- 70-71 D-

 84-85 C + 0-69 F

## Missing Work:

On time all the time is the best philosophy.

I will be strictly following the school late work policy. Students should be aware of the school policy and understand that it will be enforced for all assignments, projects, etc. If you have questions about the policy, then please refer to the school handbook. You may contact me if you have further questions.

Students are given two days to complete make-up work. It is your responsibility to communicate with me and ask regarding what you missed in class. If you are gone for a school event, then you should have your work completed and turned in before you leave.

## Classroom Expectations:

Be on time.

Bring your stuff.

Visit the restroom and drinking fountain during passing times.

Always do your BEST. Be aware of your progress in this class.

Respect: yourself, others, me, the facility, etc.

## Bathroom Policy:

Students will be given 4 bathroom passes for each quarter (16 total for the year). These passes will be in the form of “tickets” that can be stored in your personal file within the classroom. Each quarter will be assigned a color. For example, 1st quarter may be red. You may only use your red tickets during that quarter. You may not borrow tickets from another quarter OR from another student. You do not have to use all of your tickets, but just know that they will not carry over to the next quarter. Because students are expected to utilize the bathroom and water fountain between classes, these tickets are meant for emergencies.

I am understanding of emergency situations. So, if a student has used all 4 of their tickets for that quarter and insists that the restroom is an emergency, then he/she may choose to serve a 5 minute detention after school to make up for class time missed. If an afterschool detention is skipped, then it will be turned into a referral.

**Again, the bathroom should be used during passing times in order to avoid missed class time.**

## Extra Credit:

Extra credit is rarely given. Both students and parents should not count on extra credit as a way to bring up a grade. Your best work is expected the first time.

**Email Policy:**

Email is a fast, easy, and sometimes vital form of communication. Whether a student plans to attend college or enter the workforce, it is important to understand how to communicate properly. Communicating with professors or employers should be done formally. To help you get in the habit of these formal interactions, we will be utilizing an email policy. I will only respond to emails from students if they are in the proper, formal format. If a student emails me informally, then a response from me should not be expected. Again, this is for STUDENTS ONLY. Below is an example of an email that will be accepted and one that will not. Students should speak with me if they have further questions about proper email etiquette.

Ms. Daugaard,

I was gone from class today and was wondering what I missed.

Can you email me what we did in class? Thank you.

Student’s Name

**ACCEPTED**

**NOT ACCEPTED**

Hey. I was gone today. What did we do in class?

Student’s Name

## Vocabulary:

The study of vocabulary will be important throughout this course. You will utilize an online independent vocabulary study program called **number2.com**. You will study words and create a mastery list. Your vocabulary grade will be determined by checkpoints throughout the semester. You will be responsible for making sure you have the appropriate number of words for each checkpoint. Once your grade is recorded, you will not be able to go back and change that grade; however, you will still be required to make those words up so that you continue to meet the required words for future checkpoints.

## Grammar:

While grammar will be primarily studied and mastered through writing assignments, students will have various grammar assignments and lessons designed to help will improving grammar skills.

## Writing:

Please consider the 6+1 traits of writing for all written assessments.

 -Ideas and content -Word Choice

 -Organization -Conventions

 -Voice -Publish/Presentation

 -Sentence Fluency

Students will be keeping a writing portfolio that includes a student’s semester goals. Be sure to save copies of your graded papers and peer edits so they can be included in this portfolio.

Spelling ALWAYS counts.

Heading requirements:

 Your name

 Teacher (Ms. Daugaard)

 Class (English III)

 Date

Complete your writing assignments to the best of your ability

using English indicative of educated people.

-Randy Nelson

## Tentative Units:

 Creation/Native American Stories

 Puritans & Southern Colonists

 American Revolution

 Persuasive and Historical Docs.

 Fireside Poets

 *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*

Etymology

 Poetry Project

 *The Great Gatsby*

 Research Paper

 Decades Project

 American Author Project

Please print and sign your name below indicating that you’ve read through and understand the expectations in the attached syllabus. Please detach this sheet from the syllabus. Your student should return this signed to me on the day discussed in class. Thanks!

Ms. Daugaard

Student’s Name (printed): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian’s Name (printed): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_