

Ms. Petrina Lamb

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 [www.LambBAHS.weebly.com](http://www.LambBAHS.weebly.com) Twitter: @LambBAHS

What is America? What does it mean to be American? These are the questions that will guide our class as we study a mostly chronological representation of poetry, short stories, songs, and literary works from the greatest American writers.

This class will focus on two skills: *READING* and *WRITING*. We will do both of these activities every single day in a variety of forms. As we study the literature which has shaped America, we will examine the personal and national implications present today. Using a variety of learning styles (group work, discussion, lecture, independent study, etc.), we will work on improving our communication skills, especially as they pertain to the written word.

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*“I like to see a man proud of the place in which he lives. I like to see a man live so that his place will be proud of him.”*

*-Abraham Lincoln*

*“The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character—that is the goal of true education.”*

*-Martin Luther King, Jr.*

The previous two quotes by great Americans will help guide us on our journey through American literature. Through our readings and writings, we strive to learn more about our country and develop our critical thinking skills as well as our characters.

 **BE RESPONSIBLE!—**Come to class prepared each day. This means you will have the books, paper, writing instruments, and any assignments that are due every time you come to class.

**BE RESPECTFUL!—**Not only to the instructor, but also to other students. This means not interrupting class with tardiness or outbursts, as well as being respectful of others’ ideas and opinions.

Other words to live by: **POLITE, PRODUCTIVE**, **PREPARED**, **PUNCTUAL**, AND **PROUD**!

*For any other questions pertaining to dress code, cell phone use, tardies, etc., please refer to your Student Handbook.*

As we are all mature people, I do not anticipate or expect any problems in our class, but if for some reason, our expectations or procedures are not met, we have a five-step plan to regain focus and maximize student success. The plan is as follows:

*1. The Unspoken Warning*: can consist of a table tap, a stern look, or a variety of other warnings

*2. The Verbal Warning*: a polite vocal request to end all behaviors detracting from our learning

*3. The Frank, Candid, Blunt, Uninhibited, Unreserved, Downright Lay-It-All-On-The-Line Discussion:* occurs during lunch, before or after class—or if the offense is serious enough, during class—often, this consequence is met with other consequences that will be completed outside of class time (i.e. detention)

*4. The Call or E-mail Home:* when in-class interventions fail to work, it is necessary to contact a higher power—The Parents

*5. The Referral:* When other interventions have failed, a principal, coach, guidance counselor, or other adult with greater power will be called in to handle the situation

*Depending on severity of the incident, the instructor reserves the right to modify and/or skip any of the steps on the consequence plan.*

Grades will carry the following weight:

Daily Work and Homework: 25% Quizzes and Exams: 30%

 Papers and Projects: 30% Final Exam: 15%

For major assignments rubrics and expectations will be provided. For general reference, however, here are five similes to represent my expectation for assignments:

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| --- | --- |
|  | 90-100% Like a banana split with all the toppings and some original ingredients, **A** work goes above and beyond expectations. It not only demonstrates an understanding of concepts discussed in class, but also takes risks and presents additional insights. |
|  | 80-89% Like homemade vanilla ice cream, **B** work demonstrates understanding of the concepts presented in class and shows thought and effort, but it doesn’t take any risks or offer fresh insight. |
|  | 70-79% Like yogurt or fat-free ice cream, **C** work is solid but doesn’t pack the punch of **A** or **B** work. It’s competent but not dazzling. |
|  | 60-69% Like freezer-burned ice cream on a soggy cone, a **D** paper is there but leaves a bad taste. **D** work just doesn’t hang together and probably show lack of thought and effort. |
|  | 0-59% Like a half-eaten ice-cream cone that has fallen on the floor, **F** work is definitely better than zero, but it is clearly not up to snuff. It is the result of careless work and poor planning. |

You are expected to bring the necessary supplies to class each day. In addition, you are required to bring any homework that is due or assignments we are working on in class. It would also be wise to bring a book to read, in the unlikely event that you finish your in class work.

**Required Supplies:**

* Composition Notebook
* 3 ring binder with dividers
* Notebook paper
* Pencil or pen

 (blue or black only)

**YOU PICK TWO:**

* Box of Kleenex
* Hand Sanitizer
* Index Cards
* Post-It Notes
* Construction Paper
* Highlighters

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| --- | --- |
| **Absent Work** | Each student is responsible for his or her own make-up work. He or she must come in before/after school to make up tests or to get copies of assignments or notes. Check your class’s designated folder for your missing assignments and consult your class’s dry erase board for the weekly agenda. In addition, many assignments will be posted on the class website ([www.lambBAHS.weebly.com](http://www.lambBAHS.weebly.com)). As stated in the Student Handbook, you will have two days for every one day that you are absent to turn in make-up work. |
| **Dismissal** | Class will be dismissed when all materials have been returned and students are in their seats. Individuals who disrupt class will meet with the teacher after the bell rings. |
| **Electronic Devices** | Occasionally, you may be permitted to use a cell phone or portable music player in class. *Do not abuse this privilege.* Apart from those designated times, electronic devices should not be seen or heard. If seen once, student will be asked to put the device away. On the second instance, the device will be confiscated. Repeat offenders will be turned in to the appropriate principal. |
| **Entering Class** | Upon entering the classroom, each student will prepare for class by finding his or her seat and beginning the warm-up that will be posted in the room BEFORE the bell has rung. Students are considered on time when they have the appropriate supplies and are working on their warm-up. |
| **Passes** | Students may only leave when absolutely necessary and only during independent work time, per instructor’s discretion. Only one student may be out of the room for any reason at any time and each student must sign in and out at the clipboard by the door. |
| **Late Work** | Late work will be accepted until the dates listed below, however 5 percentage points will be deducted each day the assignment is late, to a maximum of 50 percent.Late work MUST be turned in by:* First Quarter: OCTOBER 12, 2012
* Second Quarter: DECEMBER 14, 2012
* Third Quarter: MARCH 8, 2013
* Fourth Quarter: MAY 24, 2013 (subject to school calendar changes)
 |
| **Plagiarism** | Plagiarism is a federal crime! Never copy, steal, or cheat at any time no matter how difficult an assignment is. All cases of copying, stealing, or plagiarizing will be reported. If you are having difficulty with anything at anytime, please come see me. |
| **Tardy Policy** | Although you will all be eager to come to class on time every single day, sometimes tardies are unavoidable. If you are late, you will be asked to sign in at the tardy log on the door to the classroom. Multiple tardies will result in Miss Lamb notifying your parents, and per the school policy, your fourth tardy will result in an office referral.  |
| **Turning in Work** | Work will be turned in to your class’s designated basket on time. The heading of your papers should consist of the following items in the upper left corner: NAME, HOUR, DATE, ASSIGNMENT NAME. |
| **Warm-Ups** | When students enter class each day, they are expected to begin the daily warm-up, which will either be on the dry erase board or SmartBoard. Students are expected to keep Warm-Ups and other quick writes in their Composition Notebooks. In the event of an absence, it is the student’s responsibility to get the warm-ups they missed, either from a classmate or from the class website. |



**QR Code for Miss Lamb’s Website:**

Scan the image to the right using your smartphone to automatically be directed to Miss Lamb’s Class Website (www.lambbahs.weebly.com).

**Broken Arrow High School**

**English III: American Literature**

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**Please sign and complete this form, detach it from the syllabus, and have your student return it to Ms. Lamb.**

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ have read the syllabus and understand what is expected of me in this class.

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 (Student Signature) (Date)

As the student’s parent or guardian, I have read the syllabus and understand what is expected of my child in this class.

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 (Parent/Guardian Signature) (Date)

**Contact Information**

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Which is the best way to contact you? (Check one)

🞎 E-mail 🞎 Daytime Phone 🞎 Evening Phone 🞎 Cell Phone

What should I know about your child to improve his/her learning experience? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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