

American Literature Syllabus

Teacher: Sabrina Ayers

This year, students will explore a variety of classic American literature, while strengthening their ability to critically analyze texts. Moreover, they will have a chance to respond to texts in a more comprehensive way with presentations, projects, and in writing responses.

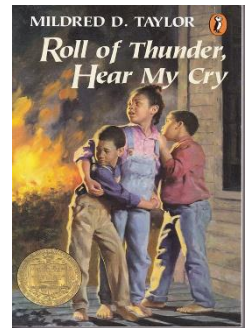
Fall

Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry by Mildred D Taylor – This is a classic American novel set in Mississippi. At the height of the Depression, this story is one family's struggle to maintain their integrity, and independence in the face of racism and social injustice.

Main Skills: Character Relationships, Plot Development, Historical Context

Writing: Interview, Short Essay, Presentation

Amazon Link: https://www.amazon.com/Roll-Thunder-Hear-My-Cry/dp/0142401129/ref=sr_1_2?crid=2L88NIOQPV035&dchild=1&keywords=roll+of+thunder+hear+my+cry+paperback&qid=1596232288&srefix=roll+of+th%2Caps%2C223&sr=8-2



Winter

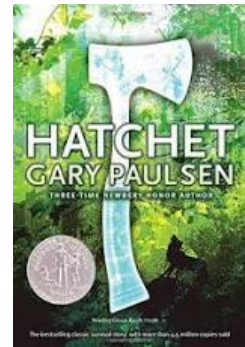
Hatchet by Gary Paulsen - Thirteen-year-old Brian Robeson, haunted by his secret knowledge of his mother's infidelity, is traveling by single-engine plane to visit his father. When the plane crashes, the sole survivor is Brian. He is alone in the Canadian wilderness with nothing but his clothing, and the hatchet his mother had given him as a present.

Main Skills: Figurative Language, Point of View, Theme

Writing: Short Written Responses, Variety of Assignments

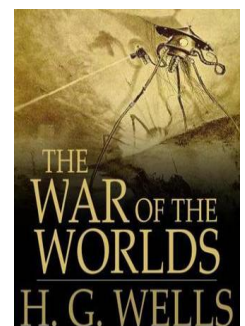
Amazon Link:

https://www.amazon.com/dp/B074CFGPY8?searchxofy=true&ref=db_s_aps_series_rwt



War of the Worlds by George Orwell - This science fiction novel describes an invasion of England by aliens from Mars. It is one of the earliest depictions of an alien invasion of Earth and has influenced many others. The 1938 radio broadcast caused public outcry and panic, as many listeners believed that an actual Martian invasion was in progress.

Skills: Foreshadowing, Characterization, Theme



Writing: Short Essay, Variety of Assignments

Amazon Link: https://www.amazon.com/H-G-Wells-War-Worlds/dp/1535001887/ref=sr_1_3?crid=14QHM3HE0EOBD&dchild=1&keywords=war+of+the+worlds+book&qid=1596232337&srefix=war+of+the%2Caps%2C208&sr=8-3

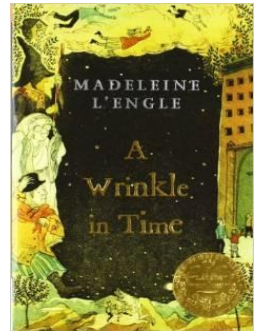
Spring

A Wrinkle In Time by Madeleine L'Engle - *A Wrinkle in Time*, is the story of the adventures in space and time of Meg, Charles Wallace, and Calvin O'Keefe (athlete, student, and one of the most popular boys in high school). They are in search of Meg's father, a scientist who disappeared while engaged in secret work for the government on the tesseract problem.

Main Skills: Plot Development, Characterization, Theme

Writing: Letter, Compare & Contrast

Amazon Link: https://www.amazon.com/Wrinkle-Time-Quintet/dp/0312367546/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=wrinkle+in+time&qid=1596231703&sr=8-1



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