

# Junior English

Columbia High School 2019-2020



## Course Overview

In this course, students examine a variety of literary genres primarily from American authors. They will develop and extend critical thinking, reading, and writing as they read both classical and popular literature. Students will be required to research, compose, and complete written projects in a variety of formats. Students will access, interpret, and apply knowledge in both the study of literature and composition. Research at this level focuses on secondary research with special emphasis on evaluation and using sources.

## Essential Skills

This course is designed to help you:

- ▶ Use details and information from texts to support your analysis of its central ideas
- ▶ Analyze the specific interactions among a set of ideas, individuals, or a sequence of events
- ▶ Examine a text's structure and evaluate whether it makes the author's claims clear, convincing, and interesting
- ▶ Understand the author's purpose and perspective on a topic and analyze how the author uses language to affect the reader
- ▶ Write clear, well-organized, and thoughtful arguments, informative texts, and narratives
- ▶ Conduct research and evaluate sources
- ▶ Integrate multiple and varied sources of information, assessing the credibility and accuracy of each source
- ▶ Actively participate in a variety of discussions
- ▶ Organize and present information, evidence, and your perspective in a style appropriate to your task, purpose, and audience
- ▶ Use digital media to enhance understanding and to add interest to your presentations

## CONTACT

*Mrs. Pixler*

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mrspixler.weebly.com

## REMIN

Sign up for class announcements  
on Remind by texting  
@Pixler11 to 81010

## MATERIALS

Please have the following  
materials with you each class:

- ▶ School-issued device
- ▶ Composition notebook
- ▶ Pens and a highlighter
- ▶ Copy of current reading

## EXPECTATIONS

*Be respectful.*

Respect yourself and others. Take care of our shared space and materials.

*Stay engaged.*

Listen, share, and collaborate. Use class time productively.

*Work hard.*

Do your best work. Ask for help when needed.

# Units of Study

## ❶ Coming to America

Why do people come to America? How have immigrants shaped our nation?

## ❷ Building a Democracy

How do we balance the rights of individuals with the common good?

## ❸ The Individual and Society

What is the relationship of the individual to the community?

## ❹ A New Birth of Freedom

How can we attain "liberty and justice for all"?

## ❺ The American Dream

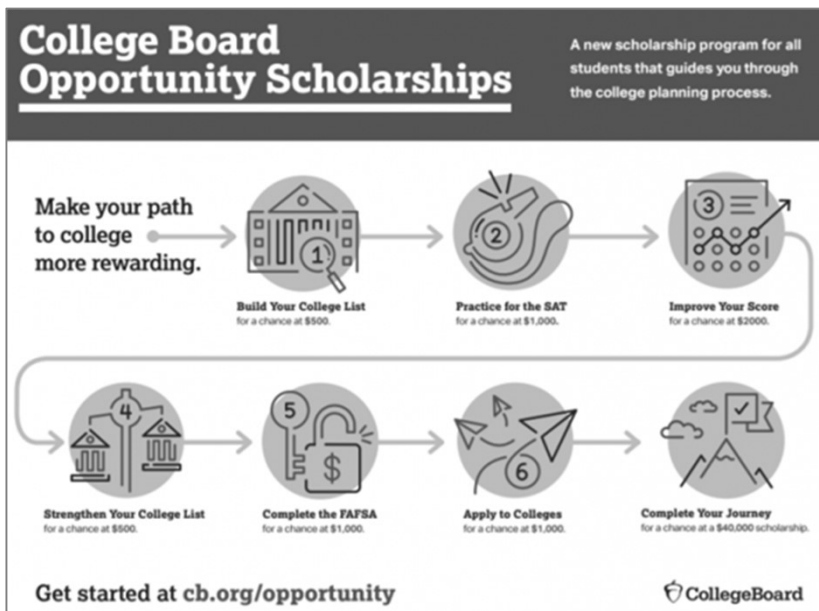
What are the barriers to achieving the American Dream?

## ❻ Junior Project

What are you passionate about?

## ❼ The Modern World

How does literature reflect modern American life?



# Important Dates

Oct 16  
Apr 15

PSAT/NMSQT  
SAT

## ASSESSMENT



### *Projects (70%):*

These inquiry-driven tasks build off class activities and checkpoints to assess your understanding of course skills.

### *Focus Areas (30%):*

These individual tasks assess your understanding of essential content knowledge.

## TECHNOLOGY

### *Summit Learning*

You will use the Summit Learning platform to access resources, submit assignments, and receive feedback – including scores and grades.

### *Cell Phones*

Silence your cell phone and keep it in your backpack. If you are expecting an urgent call, please communicate with me at the start of class.

### *Headphones and Music*

You may listen to music during independent work time. Be courteous to those around you by adjusting your volume.

\*Should these privileges be abused, I will collect phones / headphones and return them at the end of class.