

1--American Identity and Creation of the Dream

Content Area: **ELA**
Course(s): **Accelerated English 11**
Time Period: **Marking Period 1**
Length: **8 weeks**
Status: **Published**

Course Pacing Guide

Accelerated American Literature explores the forces that constantly (re)shape American identity, taking us from the colonial era to present day, and examines both the noble and problematic aspects of the American experience through literary and nonfiction texts.

Unit	MP	Weeks
American Identity and Creation of the Dream	1	8 weeks
Questioning/Corrupting the Dream	1-2	5 weeks
American Philosophy: Nature and Transcendentalism	2	7 weeks
Trials, Tests, and Manifest Destiny	3	5 weeks
The Legacy of Slavery	3	5 weeks
Modernism/Postmodernism	4	10 weeks

Unit Overview

Students will read, analyze, and discuss different texts that articulate variations of (and commentary on) the "American Dream" and American character/identity.

Enduring Understandings

- America's understanding of its national identity is multi-faceted, and sometimes contradictory
- America was founded on powerful ideas and ideals, but has not always lived up to them in reality, a contradiction apparent in many American works of literature
 - Ideals regarding immigration, social mobility, exceptionalism, independence of thought, and self-reliance are central to American identity and the American Dream
 - Those ideals are often undermined by trends/events such as hostility towards immigrants, inequalities of opportunity, slavery & Jim Crow laws, and extremism

- Historical events, economic opportunities, and economic systems have shaped American literature & identity
- Conceptions of American identity and the American Dream are not static; each generation has adapted them to its own times and needs, and will continue to do so in the future

Essential Questions

What is the American Dream? What are the hallmarks of American identity?

How and why have the answers to those questions changed over the years?

How might a person's individual identity (gender, race, geographical location, etc) shape their answers to these questions?

How did events at America's founding shape American identity & the American Dream today?

In particular, how did slavery shape American destiny, identity, and history?

What do I personally believe about the American Dream and American identity based on my experiences, my family's experiences, and my understanding of American history & literature?

New Jersey Student Learning Standards (No CCS)

LA.RL.11-12.1	Cite strong and thorough textual evidence and make relevant connections to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text, including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain.
LA.RL.11-12.2	Determine two or more themes or central ideas of a text and analyze their development over the course of the text, including how they interact and build on one another to produce a complex account; provide an objective summary of the text.
LA.RL.11-12.3	Analyze the impact of the author's choices regarding how to develop and relate elements of a story or drama (e.g., where a story is set, how the action is ordered, how the characters are introduced and developed).
LA.RL.11-12.4	Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in the text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including words with multiple meanings or language that is particularly fresh, engaging, or beautiful. (e.g., Shakespeare as well as other authors.)
LA.RL.11-12.5	Analyze how an author's choices concerning how to structure specific parts of a text (e.g., the choice of where to begin or end a story, the choice to provide a comedic or tragic resolution) contribute to its overall structure and meaning as well as its aesthetic impact.
LA.RL.11-12.6	Analyze a case in which grasping a point of view requires distinguishing what is directly stated in a text from what is really meant (e.g., satire, sarcasm, irony, or understatement).
LA.RL.11-12.7	Analyze multiple interpretations of a story, drama, or poem (e.g., recorded or live production of a play or recorded novel or poetry), evaluating how each version interprets the source text. (e.g., Shakespeare and other authors.)

LA.RL.11-12.9	Demonstrate knowledge of and reflect on (e.g., practical knowledge, historical/cultural context, and background knowledge) eighteenth-, nineteenth- and early twentieth-century foundational works of literature, including how two or more texts from the same period treat similar themes or topics.
LA.RL.11-12.10a	By the end of grade 11, read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poems at grade level text-complexity or above with scaffolding as needed.
LA.RI.11-12.1	Accurately cite strong and thorough textual evidence, (e.g., via discussion, written response, etc.), to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferentially, including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain.
LA.RI.11-12.2	Determine two or more central ideas of a text, and analyze their development and how they interact to provide a complex analysis; provide an objective summary of the text.
LA.RI.11-12.3	Analyze a complex set of ideas or sequence of events and explain how specific individuals, ideas, or events interact and develop over the course of the text.
LA.RI.11-12.4	Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze how an author uses and refines the meaning of a key term or terms over the course of a text (e.g., how Madison defines faction in Federalist No. 10).
LA.RI.11-12.5	Analyze and evaluate the effectiveness of the structure an author uses in his or her exposition or argument, including whether the structure makes points clear, convincing, and engaging.
LA.RI.11-12.6	Determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text in which the rhetoric is particularly effective, analyzing how style and content contribute to the power, persuasiveness or beauty of the text.
LA.RI.11-12.7	Integrate and evaluate multiple sources of information presented in different media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively) as well as in words in order to address a question or solve a problem.
LA.RI.11-12.8	Describe and evaluate the reasoning in seminal U.S. and global texts, including the application of constitutional principles and use of legal reasoning (e.g., in U.S. Supreme Court majority opinions and dissents) and the premises, purposes, and arguments in works of public advocacy (e.g., The Federalist, presidential addresses).
LA.RI.11-12.9	Analyze and reflect on (e.g., practical knowledge, historical/cultural context, and background knowledge) documents of historical and literary significance for their themes, purposes and rhetorical features, including primary source documents relevant to U.S. and/or global history.
LA.RI.11-12.10a	By the end of grade 11, read and comprehend literary nonfiction at grade level text-complexity or above with scaffolding as needed.
LA.W.11-12.1.A	Introduce precise, knowledgeable claim(s), establish the significance of the claim(s), distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and create an organization that logically sequences claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.
LA.W.11-12.1.B	Develop claim(s) and counterclaims avoiding common logical fallacies and using sound reasoning and thoroughly, supplying the most relevant evidence for each while pointing out the strengths and limitations of both in a manner that anticipates the audience's knowledge level, concerns, values, and possible biases.
LA.W.11-12.1.C	Use transitions (e.g., words, phrases, clauses) to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships between claim(s) and reasons, between reasons and evidence, and between claim(s) and counterclaims.
LA.W.11-12.1.D	Establish and maintain a style and tone appropriate to the audience and purpose (e.g., formal and objective for academic writing) while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing.
LA.W.11-12.1.E	Provide a concluding paragraph or section that supports the argument presented (e.g.,

articulating implications or the significance of the topic).

LA.W.11-12.4	Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1–3 above.)
LA.W.11-12.5	Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, trying a new approach, or consulting a style manual (such as MLA or APA Style), focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.
LA.W.11-12.6	Use technology, including the Internet, to produce, share, and update individual or shared writing products in response to ongoing feedback, including new arguments or information.
LA.W.11-12.7	Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question) or solve a problem; narrow or broaden the inquiry when appropriate; synthesize multiple sources on the subject, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.
LA.W.11-12.9.A	Apply grades 11–12 Reading standards to literature (e.g., “Demonstrate knowledge of eighteenth-, nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century foundational works, including how two or more texts from the same period treat similar themes or topics”).
LA.W.11-12.9.B	Apply grades 11–12 Reading standards to literary nonfiction (e.g., “Delineate and evaluate the reasoning in seminal texts, including the application of constitutional principles and use of legal reasoning [e.g., in U.S. Supreme Court Case majority opinions and dissents] and the premises, purposes, and arguments in works of public advocacy [e.g., The Federalist, presidential addresses]”).
LA.W.11-12.10	Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of tasks, purposes.
LA.SL.11-12.1	Initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with peers on grades 11–12 topics, texts, and issues, building on others’ ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.
LA.SL.11-12.1.A	Come to discussions prepared, having read and researched material under study; explicitly draw on that preparation by referring to evidence from texts and other research on the topic or issue to stimulate a thoughtful, well reasoned exchange of ideas.
LA.SL.11-12.1.B	Collaborate with peers to promote civil, democratic discussions and decision-making, set clear goals and assessments (e.g., student developed rubrics), and establish individual roles as needed.
LA.SL.11-12.1.C	Propel conversations by posing and responding to questions that probe reasoning and evidence; ensure a hearing for a full range of positions on a topic or issue; clarify, verify, or challenge ideas and conclusions; and promote divergent and creative perspectives.
LA.SL.11-12.1.D	Respond thoughtfully to diverse perspectives; synthesize comments, claims, and evidence made on all sides of an issue; resolve contradictions when possible; and determine what additional information or research is required to deepen the investigation or complete the task.
LA.SL.11-12.3	Evaluate a speaker’s point of view, reasoning, and use of evidence and rhetoric, assessing the stance, premises, links among ideas, word choice, points of emphasis, and tone used.
LA.SL.11-12.4	Present information, findings and supporting evidence clearly, concisely, and logically. The content, organization, development, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
LA.L.11-12.3.A	Vary syntax for effect, apply an understanding of syntax to the study of complex texts.
LA.L.11-12.5.A	Interpret figures of speech (e.g., hyperbole, paradox) in context and analyze their role in the text.
LA.L.11-12.5.B	Analyze nuances in the meaning of words with similar denotations.

Integrate multiple sources of information presented in diverse formats and media (e.g., visually, quantitatively, orally) in order to make informed decisions and solve problems, evaluating the credibility and accuracy of each source and noting any discrepancies among the data.

Amistad Integration

- Major unit text (Toni Morrison's *A Mercy*) examines the trans-Atlantic slave trade, slavery in Barbados, and slavery in American colonies
- Smaller texts (news article, history articles) examine impact of enslavement on American history & culture
- All unit texts requires that students consider human nature and behavior, prejudice/discrimination, and moral responsibilities in acting in a complex & diverse society

Holocaust/Genocide Education

- Major unit text (*Educated*) analyzes power dynamics (including religious power dynamics) to help students determine how those power dynamics influence history & literature
- Smaller unit texts (news articles, history articles) examine the impact of treatment of indigenous people on American history & culture
- All major unit texts requires that students consider human nature and behavior, prejudice/discrimination, and moral responsibilities in acting in a complex & diverse society

Interdisciplinary Connections

HPE.2.1.12.D.2	Explain ways to protect against abuse and all forms of assault and what to do if assaulted.
HPE.2.1.12.E.CS1	Respect and acceptance for individuals regardless of gender, sexual orientation, disability, ethnicity, socioeconomic background, religion, and/or culture provide a foundation for the prevention and resolution of conflict.
HPE.2.2.12.C.2	Judge how individual or group adherence, or lack of adherence, to core ethical values impacts the local, state, national, and worldwide community.
HPE.2.2.12.C.CS2	Core ethical values impact behaviors that influence the health and safety of people everywhere.
HPE.2.4.12.A.5	Determine effective prevention and intervention strategies to address domestic or dating violence (e.g., rules of consent, warning signs of dating violence).
SOC.6.1.12	U.S. History: America in the World: All students will acquire the knowledge and skills to think analytically about how past and present interactions of people, cultures, and the environment shape the American heritage. Such knowledge and skills enable students to make informed decisions that reflect fundamental rights and core democratic values as productive citizens in local, national, and global communities.
SOC.6.1.12.A.1.b	Analyze how gender, property ownership, religion, and legal status affected political rights.

SOC.6.1.12.A.2.a	Assess the importance of the intellectual origins of the Foundational Documents (i.e., Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and Bill of Rights) and assess their importance on the spread of democracy around the world.
SOC.6.1.12.A.3.h	Examine multiple perspectives on slavery and evaluate the claims used to justify the arguments.
SOC.6.1.12.A.3.i	Examine the origins of the antislavery movement and the impact of particular events, such as the Amistad decision, on the movement.
SOC.6.1.12.A.14.h	Assess the effectiveness of government policies in balancing the rights of the individual against the need for national security.
SOC.6.1.12.B.2.a	Analyze how the United States has attempted to account for regional differences while also striving to create an American identity.
SOC.6.1.12.C.1.b	Determine the extent to which natural resources, labor systems (i.e., the use of indentured servants, African slaves, and immigrant labor), and entrepreneurship contributed to economic development in the American colonies.
SOC.6.1.12.D.1.a	Assess the impact of the interactions and conflicts between native groups and north American settlers.
SOC.6.1.12.D.2.b	Explain why American ideals put forth in the Constitution (i.e., due process, rule of law, and individual rights) have been denied to different groups of people throughout time.
SOC.6.1.12.D.3.a	Determine how expansion created opportunities for some and hardships for others by considering multiple perspectives.
SOC.6.1.12.D.3.e	Determine the impact of religious and social movements on the development of American culture, literature, and art.
SOC.6.1.12.D.14.e	Evaluate the role of religion on cultural and social mores, public opinion, and political decisions.
SOC.6.1.12.D.14.f	Determine the influence of multicultural beliefs, products (i.e., art, food, music, and literature), and practices in shaping contemporary American culture.
SOC.6.1.12.D.16.a	Analyze the impact of American culture on other world cultures from multiple perspectives.
SOC.6.1.12.D.16.c	Determine past and present factors that led to the widening of the gap between the rich and poor, and evaluate how this has affected individuals and society.
SOC.6.1.12.CS1	Colonization and Settlement: North American Colonial societies adapted European governmental, economic, and cultural institutions and ideologies to meet their needs in the New World.
SOC.6.1.12.CS14	Contemporary United States: Domestic Policies: Differing views on government's role in social and economic issues led to greater partisanship in government decision making. The increased economic prosperity and opportunities experienced by many masked growing tensions and disparities experienced by some individuals and groups. Immigration, educational opportunities, and social interaction have led to the growth of a multicultural society with varying values and perspectives.

Technology Standards

TECH.8.1.12.A.CS1	Understand and use technology systems.
TECH.8.1.12.A.CS2	Select and use applications effectively and productively.
TECH.8.1.12.B.CS1	Apply existing knowledge to generate new ideas, products, or processes.
TECH.8.1.12.B.CS2	Create original works as a means of personal or group expression.
TECH.8.1.12.C.CS1	Interact, collaborate, and publish with peers, experts, or others by employing a variety of

21st Century Themes/Careers

CAEP.9.2.12.C.3	Identify transferable career skills and design alternate career plans.
CAEP.9.2.12.C.4	Analyze how economic conditions and societal changes influence employment trends and future education.

Financial Literacy Integration

PFL.9.1.12.A.5	Analyze how the economic, social, and political conditions of a time period can affect the labor market.
PFL.9.1.12.A.9	Analyze how personal and cultural values impact spending and other financial decisions.
PFL.9.1.12.E.4	Evaluate how media, bias, purpose, and validity affect the prioritization of consumer decisions and spending.
PFL.9.1.12.F.1	Relate a country's economic system of production and consumption to building personal wealth and achieving societal responsibilities.
PFL.9.1.12.F.3	Analyze how citizen decisions and actions can influence the use of economic resources to achieve societal goals and provide individual services.

Instructional Strategies & Learning Activities

Activities

- chapter by chapter reflection/analysis writing for *Educated* and *A Mercy*
- classroom discussions and activities related to understanding *Educated* and *A Mercy* (quick writes, timed writing prompts, pair and shares, quote analysis writing, sticky note framing, student-led seminar discussion, etc)
- read/discuss contemporary news & history articles/media related to issues in *Educated* and *A Mercy* (will vary each year based on current events)
- read/discuss supplementary texts relevant to unit themes; examples may include excerpts from Henry David Thoreau, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Francis Scott Key, Langston Hughes, Emma Lazarus, Annie Dillard, Nikole Hanna-Jones
- brainstorm, outline, draft, and edit a thesis-driven essay about American identity and/or the American Dream
- trip to Haddonfield Historical Society to learn about slavery & abolitionists in Haddonfield

Differentiated Instruction

- Jigsaw work to prepare for summer reading discussion
- Students complete the same major assignments, but choose what texts, ideas, and focal points they want to examine
- Students research on individually chosen concepts for major essay
- Feedback on writing rubrics used to craft individual writing skill goal setting/planning for major essay

Formative Assessments

- class discussions
- nightly homework: analysis & reflection writing
- in-class writing assignments
- summer reading responses
- essay outlining & editing work
- writing self-assessment

Summative Assessment

- final summer writing
- *A Mercy* reflection writing piece
- thesis driven persuasive essay

Benchmark Assessments

- thesis driven persuasive essay

Alternate Assessments

- students complete the same overall assignments, but have choice in their chosen topic, essay structures, research choices, and areas of context/skill focus in final paper

Resources & Technology

- partnership with Haddonfield Historical Society
- teacher-created writing skill resources & skill stations/instruction
- EBSCO Host database use

BOE Approved Texts

- *Educated* (Tara Westover)
- *A Mercy* (Toni Morrison)

Closure

- Sequence It - create timelines of major events discussed
- Low-Stakes Quizzes - Give a short quiz using technologies like Kahoot or a Google form.
- Have students write down three quiz questions (to ask at the beginning of the next class).
- Ask a question. Give students ten seconds to confer with peers before you call on a random student to answer. Repeat.
- Have kids orally describe a concept, procedure, or skill in terms so simple that a child in first grade would get it.
- Have kids create a cheat sheet of information that would be useful for a quiz on the day's topic.
- Kids write notes to peers describing what they learned from them during class discussions.
- Ask students to summarize the main idea in under 60 seconds to another student acting as a well-known personality who works in your discipline. After summarizing, students should identify why the famous person might find the idea significant.
- Ask students to write what they learned, and any lingering questions on an "exit ticket". Before they leave class, have them put their exit tickets in a folder or bin labeled either "Got It," "More Practice, Please," or "I Need Some Help!"

ELL

- Alternate Responses
- Advance Notes
- Extended Time
- Teacher Modeling
- Simplified Written and Verbal Instructions
- Frequent Breaks
- E-Dictionaries
- Google Translate

Special Education

- Shorten assignments to focus on mastery of key concepts.
- Shorten spelling tests to focus on mastering the most functional words.
- Specify and list exactly what the student will need to learn to pass.
- Keep the classroom quiet during intense learning times.
- Provide a computer for written work.
- Seat the student close to the teacher or a positive role model.
- Provide an unobstructed view of the chalkboard, teacher, movie screen, etc.
- Keep extra supplies of classroom materials (pencils, books) on hand.
- Give directions in small steps and in as few words as possible.
- Number and sequence the steps in a task.
- Have student repeat the directions for a task.
- Provide visual aids.
- Go over directions orally.
- Provide a vocabulary list with definitions.
- Permit as much time as needed to finish tests.
- Allow tests to be taken in a room with few distractions (e.g., the library).
- Divide tests into small sections of similar questions or problems.
- Grade spelling separately from content.
- Show a model of the end product of directions (e.g., a completed math problem or finished quiz).
- Stand near the student when giving directions or presenting a lesson.
- Mark the correct answers rather than the incorrect ones.

504

- preferential seating
- extended time on tests and assignments
- reduced homework or classwork
- verbal, visual, or technology aids
- modified textbooks or audio-video materials
- behavior management support
- adjusted class schedules or grading
- verbal testing
- excused lateness, absence, or missed classwork
- pre-approved nurse's office visits and accompaniment to visits
- occupational or physical therapy

At Risk

- Use of mnemonics
- Provision of notes or outlines
- Concrete examples
- Assistance in maintaining uncluttered space
- Peer or scribe note-taking
- Lab and math sheets with highlighted instructions
- Graph paper to assist in organizing or lining up math problems
- No penalty for spelling errors or sloppy handwriting
- Follow a routine/schedule
- Verbal and visual cues regarding directions and staying on task
- Adjusted assignment timelines
- Visual daily schedule
- Immediate feedback
- Work-in-progress check
- Pace long-term projects
- Preview test procedures
- Film or video supplements in place of reading text
- Use de-escalating strategies
- Chart progress and maintain data

Gifted and Talented

- Offer the Most Difficult First
- Offer choice
- Speak to Student Interests
- Tiered learning
- Focus on effort and practice
- Encourage risk taking