

**Contemporary Literature Syllabus  
2025-2026**

## **Instructor Information**

**Instructor:** Misti Gray

**School Telephone:** 423-487-5602

**E-mail:** graym@cocke.k12.tn.us

**Remind/Class Dojo:** *Remindme.com*

*Study Sync*

*Google Classroom*

## **Classroom Expectations**

1. Be on time and prepared to work!
2. Stay on task with all assignments and activities.
3. Respect the teacher's duty to teach and each student's right to learn---listen quietly/attentively when teaching and learning are taking place.
4. Remain in your seat at all times unless given permission to do otherwise. Do not line up or hang out at the door at the end of the class period. THE BELL DOESN'T DISMISS YOU, MS. GRAY DOES, SO DON'T START PACKING YOUR BAGS BEFORE I STATE THAT CLASS IS DISMISSED!
5. Be quiet and respectful when anyone visits the classroom, or speaking over the intercom.
6. Follow the proper hall pass procedures when leaving the classroom for any reason. Do not ask to leave class when the teacher, a visitor, or a student is speaking or making a presentation.
7. Cell phones are not to be out at any time during school hours. Don't have it out, because you know the consequences.
8. Mind your own personal property and be respectful of property belonging to the school, the teacher, and other students. Keep the desks, shelves, floors, etc. clean of trash and keep books off the floor and in their proper place.
9. Profanity or distasteful/disrespectful remarks will not be tolerated!
10. When returning from an absence and/or needing makeup work, students should check the daily assignments notebook. If any work is missing from the notebook, see me at the end of the class period! It is the student's responsibility to arrange a makeup date for quizzes and tests. All missed work must be turned in no later than three days after the missed class or a zero grade will be given!
11. You will keep up with your assignments, work in class, and notebook.

## **Plagiarism**

According to the Harbrace Handbook, 15<sup>th</sup> edition: Plagiarism is defined as "presenting someone else's ideas, research, or opinions as your own without proper documentation, even if it has been rephrased." This includes, but is not limited to: Copying verbatim all or part of another's written work; using phrases, figures or illustrations without citing the source; paraphrasing ideas, conclusions or research without citing the source; using all or part of a literary plot, poem or film without attributing the work to its creator.

Consequences of Plagiarism: Plagiarism is a form of stealing and academic fraud. Students who are found guilty of plagiarism have the option of either redoing the assignments within a specified time frame and accept a letter drop or taking a zero on the assignment. Parents are to be involved in making this decision.

## **Religion in the Classroom**

The Cocke County Board of Education affirms that it is essential that the teaching about religion-and not of a religion be conducted in a factual, objective and respectful manner in accordance with the following guidelines:

1. Religious themes may be a part of the curriculum for school-sponsored activities and programs provided it is essential to the learning experience in the various fields of study and is presented objectively;
2. The inclusion of religion shall be for educational purposes only;
3. The emphasis on religious themes should be only as extensive as necessary for a balanced and comprehensive study of the curriculum. Such studies shall never be used to proselytize, establish, foster, or demean any particular religion, religious tenets, or beliefs;
4. Student-initiated expressions to questions or assignments which reflect their beliefs or non-beliefs about a religious theme shall be accommodated.

## **Artificial Intelligence**

Artificial Intelligence (AI) programs as defined by state law may be used by staff and students in the district.<sup>1</sup>

Only approved AI programs may be utilized in student instruction or in completing student work. The Director of Schools shall develop a procedure for staff to submit additional programs for approval.

District technology staff are tasked with overseeing the implementation of AI programs. These staff members will review artificial intelligence programs to ensure compliance with district policies as well as state and federal student data privacy laws and present recommendations to the Director of Schools for approval. Any approved programs shall be accessible to all students.

The Director of Schools shall incorporate training programs on AI into professional development for district staff. This training shall focus on responsible use of AI and best practices for use in school settings and include instruction regarding personally identifiable information and the need to comply with state and federal data privacy laws. Emphasis shall be placed on the importance of securing and properly storing any data that is collected by the district in compliance with state and federal law

**August 1:**  
**Intro to class**

**August 4-8**

**Literature:** Novel Study 1

Auto-Biography of your choice

**Additional Text:** Medal of Honor Character Development

**August 11-15**

**Literature:** Novel Study 1

Auto-Biography

Research of your novel choice

**Additional Text:** Medal of Honor Character Development

**August 18-22**

**Literature:** Novel Study 1

Auto-Biography

Research of your novel choice

**Additional Text:** Medal of Honor Character Development

**August 25-28**

**Literature:** Novel Study 1

Auto-Biography

Novel Project Presentations

**Additional Text:** Medal of Honor Character Development

**September 2-5**

**Literature:** Novel Study 2

Auto-Biography

**Additional Text:** Medal of Honor Character Development

**September 8-12**

**Literature:** Novel Study 2

Auto-Biography

**Additional Text:** Medal of Honor Character Development

**September 15-19**

**Literature:** Novel Study 2

Auto-Biography

Novel Study Project 2

**Additional Text:** Medal of Honor Character Development

**September 22-26**

**Literature:** Novel Study 2

Auto-Biography

Novel Project 2

**Additional Text:** Medal of Honor Character Development

**September 29-October 3**

**September 30<sup>th</sup> ACT**

**Literature:** Novel Study 3

Auto-Biography

**Additional Text:** Medal of Honor Character Development

**October 14-17**

**Literature:** Novel Study 3

Auto-Biography

**Additional Text:** Medal of Honor Character Development

**October 20-24**

**Literature:** Novel Study 3

Auto-Biography

Novel Study Project 3

**Additional Text:** Medal of Honor Character Development

**October 27-31**

**Literature:** Novel Study 3

Auto-Biography

Novel Study Project 3

**Additional Text:** Medal of Honor Character Development

**November 3-7**

**November 4-No School**

**November 6-ASVAB for sophomores**

**Literature:** Novel Study 4

Auto-Biography

**Additional Text:** Medal of Honor Character Development

**November 10-14**

**Literature:** Novel Study 4

Auto-Biography

**Additional Text:** Medal of Honor Character Development

**May 9<sup>th</sup> ASVAB for sophomores**

**November 17-20**

**Literature:** Novel Study 4

Auto-Biography

Novel Study Project 4

**Additional Text:** Medal of Honor Character Development

**November 24-25**

**25<sup>th</sup> 1:00 Dismissal**

**Literature:** Novel Study 5

Auto-Biography

**Additional Text:** Medal of Honor Character Development

**December 1-4**

**Literature:** Novel Study 5

Auto-Biography

**Additional Text:** Medal of Honor Character Development

**December 8-12**

**Literature:** Novel Study 5

Auto-Biography

**Additional Text:** Medal of Honor Character Development

**December 15-19**

**Literature:** Novel Study 5

Auto-Biography

**Additional Text:** Medal of Honor Character Development

**December 15-19 for those on semester only**

**Final Study Guide and Finals**

