Literature

American Literature (Honors option)

- Focusing on American authors from Nathaniel Hawthorne to Ray Bradbury, this course will cover important literature as well as the historical importance of the time period in which the literature is set or written. Class time will be spent discussing important themes and literary elements and making connections between the literature and the real world. We will cover important themes of friendship, honesty, forgiveness, prejudice, war, and more. Complete novels, plays, short stories, and poetry are included in this course, and tests and projects will be assigned throughout the year. This course pairs well with Composition II.
- Meets: Tuesday at 9:30
- Course fee: $270 (two payments of $135)
- Recommended credits: 0.5

Book list:

First Semester:
- Early American stories & poems (handouts)
- *The Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne
- *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller
- *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain
- *Up from Slavery* by Booker T. Washington

Second Semester:
- *Shane* by Jack Schaefer
- *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee
- *Farewell to Manzanar* by Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston
- *Code Talker* by Joseph Bruchac
- *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury

World Literature (Honors option)

- We will begin in Greece with mythology and Homer's *Odyssey*, stop in England for some Shakespeare, and take off around the world with literature selections from around the globe. Along our journey, we will discuss important themes of war, the Holocaust, friendship, truth, family relationships, and more. Students will prepare for weekly discussions by reading assigned chapters and completing engaging assignments at home. Our class time will focus on identifying literary elements (symbolism, character, conflict, etc.) and their importance to the work, as well as discussing issues raised by the literature. This course pairs well with Composition I.
- Meets: Tuesday at 8:30
- Course fee: $270 (two payments of $135)
- Recommended credits: 0.5

Book list:

First semester:
- *Mythology* by Edith Hamilton
- *The Odyssey* by Homer (from handouts)
- *A Single Shard* by Linda Sue Park
- *The Trumpeter of Krakow* by Eric P. Kelly
- *Romeo & Juliet* by William Shakespeare

Second Semester:
- *Around the World in Eighty Days* by Jules Verne
- *Night by Elie Wiesel* (translated by Marion Wiesel)
- *Cry the Beloved Country* by Alan Paton
- *Children of the River* by Linda Crew
- *The Giver* by Lois Lowry

Weekly flow of work - Students will have chapters/assigned pages to read each week in preparation for class. On Monday they will have a a quiz on the reading assignment for the week. On Tuesday we will discuss the reading assignment in class and have some fun with enriching assignments and activities. After each class meeting, students will have an online discussion to complete by Friday. Tests and projects will be assigned periodically.

Books can be purchased in print or in electronic format, or they can be borrowed. My main concern is that the students have a copy of the text to bring with them to class each week.

Literature & Composition

Short Stories (Honors Option)

- Longer and more prosaic than poetry, but shorter and more "poetic" than most novels, the short story has evolved into one of the most powerful literary genres. During this course, a variety of activities will be used to read, write, and evaluate various kinds of short literary works including mystery, western, comedy, horror, gothic, romance, non-fiction, foreign, fable, and fairy tale. A wide variety of instructional strategies will be utilized including lecturing, informal and formal test evaluations, entire class and small group discussions and presentations, independent reading and writing assignments, and multi-media presentations. Students will read short stories with fluency, accuracy, comprehension and appropriate expression; identify and analyze the elements of short stories, which apply to longer works of fiction as well; and analyze the development of theme, tone, and literary devices. Fun projects will allow students to deepen their knowledge of the short story and share their creativity. Writing assignments will include both analysis of the literature and creative writing. Literature and composition will be incorporated for a complete English course. This course will be taught alternating years, with British Literature being taught the other years.
- Meets: Tuesday and Thursday at 10:30
- Cost: $470 (two payments of $235)
- Additional Fees: $10 for bound, printed copy of all short stories
- Recommended credits: 1.0 (0.5 literature/0.5 composition)
- Required materials: None. Stories will be provided in handouts, and teacher-created materials will be supplied.

Composition

Composition I

- The focus of this composition course will be on the four modes of writing – narration, description, persuasion, and exposition. We will focus on content and structure and cover some general grammar skills. This course is geared toward students who want to gain more confidence in their writing and who need to spend some time building a foundation for advanced composition. The writing assignments are fun and engaging, and they are the perfect way to get students ready for more advanced academic writing. While not a huge focus of our class, we do work on sentence diagramming as a way to discuss and understand the different parts of speech and how they work together. This course pairs well with World Literature.
- Each week students will be working on a writing assignment. For each assignment we will complete planning, drafting, and editing/proofreading stages, and we will alternate two assignments at a time. In class we will discuss writing-related topics and work on practice exercises for common grammar problems.
- Students need a notebook for keeping notes, returned papers, and exercises. The curriculum is one that I have pieced together over 20 years of teaching writing. Much of the material will be given in the form of handouts, and we will not follow a specific text or curriculum.
- Meets: Thursday at 8:30
- Course fee: $290 (two payments of $145)
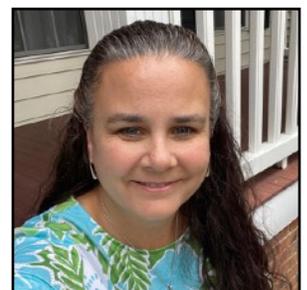- Recommended credits: 0.5

Composition II

- The foundation of this course will be expository writing, and development of a strong essay will be our focus. Students will write comparison/contrast essays, character sketches, critical analyses, persuasive letters, literary reviews, and more. This course is geared toward students who have been exposed to formal essay writing and who are ready to hone their advanced writing skills such as using transitions, improving word choice, writing clearly and concisely, and employing a variety of sentence structures. Composition I is not a prerequisite for Composition II, but students who have not taken Composition I will be required to submit a writing sample to assess readiness. This course pairs well with American Literature.
- Each week students will be working on a writing assignment. We will start the year doing two drafts of each assignment, but by the end of the second semester, students will be completing weekly essays on their own. In class we will discuss writing-related topics and work on practice exercises for common grammar problems and advanced skills.
- Students need a notebook for keeping notes, returned papers, and exercises. The curriculum is one that I have pieced together over 20 years of teaching writing. Much of the material will be given in the form of handouts, and we will not follow a specific text or curriculum.
- Meets: Thursday at 9:30
- Course fee: $290 (two payments of $145)
- Recommended credits: 0.5

Computers

- This course covers important computer applications, coding, blogging, Internet skills, and graphic design. Students will learn to effectively use Word, Excel, and Powerpoint through a series of fun projects. Basic computer hardware, internet safety, online research skills, and computer usage will be explored each week through presentations and fun activities. In the spring, students will complete a semester-long blogging project using the Wordpress platform. A unit on coding will satisfy the programming component now required for computer science courses in South Carolina.
- Each student is required to have a laptop for each class meeting. Students must also have access to Microsoft Office applications during 1st semester. There is a monthly subscription available at a reasonable price for those who do not have the software or want to purchase it ($6.99/month). Students will also have to create accounts for several free platforms: Google, Canva, WordPress, etc.
- Meets: Tuesday (A) OR Thursday (B) at 12:00
- Course fee: $390 (two payments of $195)
- Recommended credits: 1.0

Ginger Lockamy

I love reading and talking about good books and enjoy teaching students how to become better writers and communicators. I believe that literature helps us understand the world and those around us and challenges us to formulate our own beliefs and ideals as we consider important issues and different viewpoints. Reading and writing are foundational skills for every other course of study, and I enjoy helping students reach their potential so that they can be successful in whatever they choose to do in the future. I have been with Compass Prep since its beginning in 2011 and have 20 years experience teaching homeschoolers. I have a BA in English from Presbyterian College, with minors in Psychology and Secondary Education, and a Master's in Library and Information Science from USC. I began my teaching career in public school, but left to stay home with my three children, whom I have homeschooled for 14 years (so far!). I have served as a writing coach with WriteAtHome and worked as grader for the SAT essay. In my spare time I enjoy reading, amateur photography, scrapbooking, and working jigsaw puzzles.

Contact: glockamy@me.com