

**Accelerated English 3 Syllabus
2016-2017**

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*That you are here—that life exists, and identity;
That the powerful play goes on, and you will contribute a verse.*
- Walt Whitman

Course Catalogue Description

The accelerated English classes at Silverton High School have rigorous academic standards for highly motivated, advanced students. This course will offer advanced instruction focused on improving students' proficiency in writing, literary analysis, and speaking, listening, and language skills, which are aligned to the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). Students will, among other things, produce synthesis writing, develop and craft research projects, deconstruct and debate American literature and nonfiction, give speeches, and link CCSS to their lives after high school. This course will prepare students for Advanced Placement English Literature, Advanced Placement Language and Composition, and/or College Writing.

Required Materials

1. A spiral notebook or composition notebook which will be used for this class only
2. A folder or binder to keep handouts
3. Paper, highlighters, and pencils

Course Policies and Expectations

1. Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with, and following, the policies, procedures and timelines laid out in this syllabus. This syllabus may change; students are responsible for all changes.
2. Students must inform the teacher if there are things going on that will interfere with meeting deadlines and learning. I can only work with you if I know what's happening.
3. Assignments are due, and ready in all respects, at the start of class on the due date.
4. One of the Common Core State Standards assessed in English Language Arts classrooms is to "come to discussions prepared, having read and researched material under study." This standard is SL.1.a. Therefore, if students are not prepared for class—insofar as they have not read and/or not completed assignments ON TIME—they may, depending on whether this standard is being assessed, receive a 1/5 (F). There is no way to redo this standard because it is assessed at the start of class. If a student continues to fail the SL.1.a standard, it will significantly lower their grade and may result in a failing semester grade.
5. Students are expected to attend class at a minimum of 92% rate according to the Silverton High School policy.
6. If students will be absent from class, it is their responsibility to figure out what assignments, readings, notes, and direct instruction they will miss beforehand by asking other students and the teacher.
7. Students must come to class with their required textbook, novels, notebook, folder, pen or pencils, paper, completed assignments, and other necessary materials. If students do not have their required materials at the start of class, they will receive a lunch detention.
8. Students must engage in class discussions by providing thoughtful responses and respecting the views of their peers. Participation is essential, so please make your ideas known. However, if your ideas happen to stem from racist, sexist, homophobic, and/or any other bigoted views, keep them to yourself. Class discussion is a big part of an English curriculum, and while all sides of an argument are welcome, students may not express opinions in ways that put down, threaten, intimidate, or are otherwise potentially hurtful to their classmates. Discussion is a place for growth and exploration, not separation, personal attacks, or hostility.
9. Students must ask questions when concepts, readings, instructions, etc. are unclear. It's easy to fall behind if students do not ask questions.
10. Students must be polite, respectful, and open to new ideas. Hate speech will not be tolerated.
11. Students must respect the property of the teacher and the other students. Stealing is a crime.
12. Plagiarism is not tolerated and will result in academic discipline. When in doubt, cite.

Late Work Policy

- 1. NO LATE WORK IS ACCEPTED. All assessments are due at the START of class on the due date. If students do not meet this deadline, they will receive a 1/5 (F) for all standards attached to the assessment. If students continue to not meet due dates, they will fail the class.**
- 2. If an assessment is not complete by the due date, students may not revise the work.**

Silverton High School English Language Arts Department Grading Policy:

Students will have multiple (at least three) opportunities to demonstrate proficiency on each Common Core State Standard (CCSS) assessed during the semester. Each assessment will be graded on a 1-5 scale aligned rubric. These multiple opportunities will then be converted into an overall score using the mode (most frequent number).

Students will have multiple opportunities to revise some assessments—both inside and outside of the classroom.

The only CCSS that is different is SL.1a (coming to class prepared and ready to discuss material). Students will either receive a 1 or a 4 depending on if they are prepared for class. If a student consistently shows proficiency and their SL.1a overall score impacts their final semester grade, they need to set up a conference with the teacher. There is no way to redo this standard because it is assessed at the start of class. If a student continues to fail the SL.1.a standard, it will significantly lower their grade and may result in a failing semester grade.

Silverton High School and Silverton High School Language Arts Department Policies

Honor Policy (as stated in the SHS Student Handbook): Silverton High School faculty and administration believe that honesty and trustworthiness are the basic characteristics of a citizen in a free society. We also believe that whatever learning a person achieves, as the result of his/her own efforts is an accomplishment in which he/she can take pride and which will be of use and benefit to him/her. In this belief, and as an expression of the value we place on the integrity of a student's work, we will not accept plagiarism, copying the work of others, doing another student's work for him/her, giving him/her answers for tests, nor any other activity that falls into the classification of cheating. The consequences for such action will include the confiscation of material, notification of parents, possible failure of assignment and/or class, and disciplinary action.