

Sophomore
English 2
2016-2017



Mr. Nick McWilliams Room A111
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Dear Students, Parents/Guardians,
The following are the guidelines for this English 2 course. All guidelines are applied to every student equally and are the basis for expected behavior and assessment to insure that our classroom is productive.

Overview

This year long class will focus on improving and extending your writing, critical thinking, and close reading skills. We will use the Prentice Hall textbook, *Beowulf*, *Animal Farm*, *Julius Caesar*, and other supplementary resources.

Expectations

In this class, students can expect –

- To attend class at a minimum of 92% rate according to the Silverton High policy.
- To commit time and effort to the class.
- To be prepared with completed assignments ready to use that day in discussion or further writing and revision.
- To complete assignments, quizzes, and activities at a proficient or mastery level. **
- To master important reading and writing techniques.
- To feel challenged at times. *When you need help, please let me know.*
- To ask questions when you are stuck AND when you are curious!
- To bring a spiral notebook to class every day, starting Thursday.
- To be in seat when the bell rings and be working on the activity on the front screen
- To work through the entire period and be dismissed by the teacher. Do not pack up your things early and/or line up at the door prior to the bell ringing.

Class Standards and Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to read both literature and informative pieces, write, speak, and use language according to the Grade 10 Common Core Standards for Language Arts. (<http://www.ode.state.or.us/search/page/?id=3380>)

Students will read and write at an appropriate grade-level that promotes critical thinking, questioning, and analyzing.

Grading Policy and Assignments– Please read this carefully!

A= 100-90%; B=89-80%; C=79-70%; D=69-60%; F=59% and lower

Our goal as a department is to ensure students master each of the Common Core State Standards selected for their English course. Students will have multiple opportunities to demonstrate proficiency on each standard. Each standard is equally weighted in the gradebook, so it is important that students focus on all standards selected for the course. All assignments are graded on scale of 1-5. A score of 4 signifies proficiency, or “passing” a standard. A score of 5 signifies mastery of a standard. A score of 3 signifies developing toward proficiency.

Assignments for English 2 include:

1. Many practice assignments (5=Mastery; 4=Proficient; Z=redo/revise)
- ** Students are required to promptly redo/revise any work that does not meet the standard of 5 or 4.
2. Assessment assignments completed by students demonstrating proficiency or mastery of skills.
3. Root word vocabulary and SAT Question Prep quizzes.
4. Timeliness. Turning in assignments on time is important and expected in the accelerated and college prep classes.
5. (Extra Credit is just that: extra. I offer extra credit very seldom; rather I expect you to do your job. Extra credit may be offered in addition to regular work not as a replacement for missing work.)
6. Article of the week discussions and responses.

Stay Connected and Informed

To view your student's progress towards proficiency on course standards as well as their personal management for the class, please use the *Parent Links* button on the top of the SHS homepage to access the link to Pinnacle (a password-restricted website). A letter will be mailed home with instructions for using the website as well as a log-in and password. For further assistance with your log-in or password, please contact Sandy Sprauer (ext3800) or Debbie Valoff (ext3799) in the Silverton High School Counseling Center (503-873-6331). Silverton HS homepage can be found at:

<http://silvertonhigh.silverfalls.orvsd.org/>

Classroom 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 be the confiscation of material, notification of parents, possible failure of assignment and/or class, and disciplinary action.
- Grades are updated by Monday morning 8am and available for viewing on-line.
- See the teacher when you have questions. I am available before school, during lunch, and after school. Additionally, you have my home email.

Sophomore English: 2016-2017

Mr. McWilliams Room A111

My student and I have read, discussed, and understood the course description, requirements, and expectations for Accelerated Sophomore English. S/he and I understand and agree to abide by the policies set out here.

Parent/guardian signature, printed name, date

Student signature, printed name, date

Parent email

Parent day time phone number(s)

Additional information/concerns that would be beneficial for me to know:

Sophomore English: Fall 2016-2017

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