

Silverton High School, September 2016 – June 2017

## English 4—Senior English

Instructor: Mr. Nick McWilliams

Conference hours: 8:47 – 9:34 AM; 3:00 – 3:30 PM

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School phone: 503-873-6331 ext. #3873 Room A111

GO FOXES!



### Course Overview:

English 4, a full-year required class, continues to develop and refine students' reading, writing, thinking, and speaking skills as they ready to graduate high school and move on to participate as active citizens in society. For college **or** career readiness, one must be able to think critically, think reflectively, analyze effectively, and possess argument literacy – all things that develop as we write and are what theorist and critic Neil Postman calls *the soul of education*. Therefore, this course emphasizes clear writing and critical reading and thinking. Students will practice skills to access and process information and to communicate fluently and effectively. Students will study the elements of effective expository writing and practice sentence, paragraph, and essay development techniques. Students will explore a variety of ancient and modern World Literature texts including mythology, short story, drama, and the novel, read contemporary informational texts, as well as self-selected literature on a regular basis. The textbooks are *Prentice Hall Literature—World Masterpieces* and the novels *Persepolis* and *All Quiet on the Western Front*.

\***ALL** formal papers must be:

- Typed/Double-Spaced
- 12 pt. font using standard fonts only

### Expectations

**Attendance:** Attendance is essential in order to meet the goals of the class. Maintaining a minimum of a 92% attendance rate is expected.

**Tardies:** You will be counted as on time if you are in your seat when the bell rings. School policy states that you will be assigned a lunch detention if you are tardy.

**Bathroom Use:** Students must ask permission to use the bathroom and must have a written pass signed by the teacher before leaving the room. Excessive time out of the classroom will be discouraged. Students may not use the bathroom pass for the first or last 10 minutes of class. No bathroom passes when teacher is providing instruction.

**Food and Beverages:** Students may bring drinks in a spill-proof container to class. Any food should be eaten before the bell rings. Any other food brought in can be left on the side counter and picked up when you leave.

**Cell phones/iPods:** Cell phones must be turned off during class time. If I see or hear one in use, I will take it. If it happens repeatedly, your parent will have to come to school to get the phone. Music players may be used in class *only* when I expressly allow it.

**Dismissal: This one is especially important to me.** It is disrespectful to begin gathering your things while a lesson is being completed, so please don't. Do not line up at the door before the bell rings! Repeated instances of will result in lunch detention.

### Silverton High School English Language Arts Department Grading Policy:

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 a 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.

**Class Expectations:**

In this class we maintain high standards and expectations. Students are accountable for participating in class and completing and turning in assignments on time. We expect quality work at all times and encourage students to **challenge themselves** to work to their own highest level of achievement.

**Missed Tests and School Work:**

If you are absent one day, you have one day to make up your work for it to be counted on time. I am always available to help you catch up. Be aware that late work will impact your grade. There is also a 6 week cut off for all late work.

Tests, quizzes, and projects must be made up upon your return; please see me to work out a make-up time. RIE is a common time to take test. This year RIE will be during AG on Wed. and Thurs. and you will be requested if makeup work is needed. **If you do not come to me about making up the test, or you forget to do it, you will lose the opportunity to be assessed on those standards.**

**Turning in work—Please read this carefully:** Being prepared for class and turning in ALL assignments on time is important and **expected** and is tied to **CCS SL.1**, which will be a weighted grade category. **BE RESPONSIBLE: If you've been absent, when you return check Pinnacle and then check with me to see what you missed. You will have as much time as the rest of the class had to complete this work. Be sure to collect materials and schedule any tests you may have missed, many of which are time sensitive.**

**Materials:**

In addition to the required text(s), student should have the following:

- Paper, pens, pencil, two (2) highlighters (different colors),
- Lined Composition Book to be **used only for this class (Meads sold in the library)**
- Homework, assignments, etc.
- Self-selected novels – just in case a window of time appears. There will be a sign up sheet on the wall.

**Guidelines:**

1. **BE RESPONSIBLE.** Arrive on time, with all materials, ready to work each day; turn in work when it is due.
2. **BE RESPECTFUL** and supportive of everyone in the classroom. Support the teacher's right to teach and others' right to learn.
3. **SHOW HONESTY** and **INTEGRITY** in your words and actions. Do the right thing at all times.  
*Silverton High School students are expected to practice academic honesty by doing what is right and not cheating, plagiarizing, or misrepresenting their coursework in any way.*

**A Final Note: I want you to have a happy, successful, learning, growing SENIOR YEAR! Please let me know if you are having any difficulties along the way.**

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