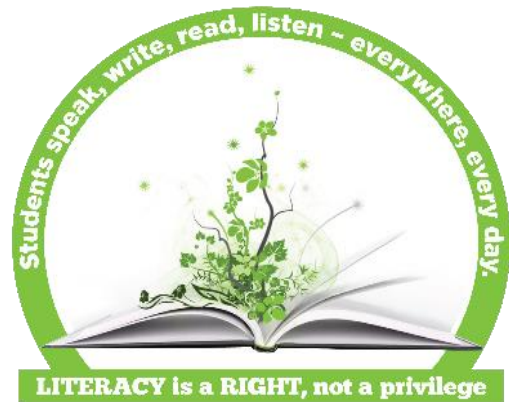


English III Course Syllabus & Expectations

Course Instructor: Seth Beiler – sbeiler@wcpss.net

Course Description:

The skills and knowledge captured in the ELA/literacy standards are designed to prepare students for life outside the classroom. They include critical-thinking skills and the ability to closely and attentively read texts in a way that will help them understand and enjoy complex works of literature. Students will learn to use cogent reasoning and evidence collection skills that are essential for success in college, career, and life. The standards also lay out a vision of what it means to be a literate person who is prepared for success in the 21st century.



Supplies Needed:

3-ring binder w/ notebook paper and/or a spiral notebook
Please always come to class with a pencil or pen (blue or black ink)

Texts: We will read many texts from a diverse range of authors, genres, and voices. Below is a list of readings that are pre-approved and typically included in this course, though it is subject to change given the rapidly changing world we live in:

The Crucible (Arthur Miller)
Speak (Laurie Halse Anderson)
The Great Gatsby (F. Scott Fitzgerald)
Their Eyes Were Watching God (Zora Neale Hurston)
Black Boy (Richard Wright)
Of Mice and Men (John Steinbeck)
Walden & Resistance to Civil Government (Henry David Thoreau)
Self-Reliance & Nature (Ralph Waldo Emerson)

Textbooks:

When textbooks are issued to students, students become responsible for returning them in the same condition as when issued, except for normal wear. Charges will be assessed for lost and damaged books. Students may be denied participation in prom or other school-sponsored activities if they have any debt to school.

Grading Policy:

Academic

50% Major
25% Minor
15% Homework/Classwork
10% Student Engagement

Honors

60% Major
20% Minor
15% Homework/Classwork
5% Student Engagement

Major assignments consist of tests, papers, and unit projects, while minor assignments consist of quizzes, study questions, etc. The North Carolina Final Exam for English III counts for 20% of a student's final grade.

Homework:

Homework will be assigned on a regular basis. Most homework involves reading and/or writing. All homework is meaningful and of value and is expected to be completed before scheduled class time.

Policy for Make-up Assignments:

Student attendance is critical for academic success. If a student misses class, (s)he should refer to the Wake County Student Handbook for the district's make-up work policy. Teachers will work with students to create a reasonable timeline to complete make-up work.

Late Work:

If a student is not absent but fails to turn in a major assignment on the day that it is due, the assignment will be graded when it is submitted, but ten points will be deducted from the score of the assignment for each day that the assignment is late (not to exceed 40 points deducted or 4 days late). If a student fails to turn in a major assignment altogether, then no credit will be issued for that assignment.

PCHS Basic Expectations:

- Be present and on time.
- Be prepared for and engaged in learning.
- Be a person of character.
- Be safe and comply with PCHS and WCPSS policies.

Attendance Policy:

Attendance in school is central to educational achievement and school success. Attendance and participation in class is an integral part of the learning process and thereby a part of the grade earned. Additionally, regular attendance develops patterns of behavior essential to success in later life. While there are times when students must be absent from school due to physical inability to attend, it must be understood that parents or legal guardians have the responsibility for ensuring that students attend and remain at school daily.

Note that parents will be contacted after a student has accumulated three unexcused absences or five excused absences. Learning can only take place if the student is present and engaged; therefore, it is the student's responsibility to be present and punctual.

Tardy Policy:

Beginning class on time and valuing learning are at the heart of what makes Panther Creek a superior high school. All students should be in their assigned classroom or location before the tardy bell rings. Any student who has an unexcused tardy to class is subject to the following:

- 1st tardy for semester = Teacher warning
- 2nd tardy for semester = Teacher-determined consequence
- 3rd tardy for semester = School lunch detention and parent communication
- 4th and subsequent tardies for semester = Administrative referral

Catamount Consequences:

Behavior that does not adhere to the school and classroom basic expectations will be handled as follows:

- Student/teacher conference
- Parent contact/teacher determined consequence
- Lunch detention
- Referral to administration

SMART Lunch:

Panther Creek High School offers SMART Lunch, an extended single lunch period. Each teacher has been assigned two days per week to offer tutorials. In order to receive credit for attending SMART lunch, your attendance must be documented. While attending SMART lunch, students are expected to work quietly on English III related assignments, to complete make-up work, or to receive additional help.

Plagiarism:

Regardless of whether you meant to or not, if you submit unoriginal work (another person's writing or work that borrows extensively from another source), you will be found guilty of plagiarism. Plagiarism is a Level II offense and violates the Student Code of Conduct. An administrative referral will be made for all infractions of this nature. Please see the Student Code of Conduct for information regarding Academic Integrity.