

**Welcome to English 3-4**  
**Mr. Hamilton**  
**Kamiakin High School**  
**2017-2018**

Course Description: English 3 reinforces the basic skills introduced in English 1-2. The primary components include literary analysis, group discussion, argumentative and explanatory writing, speech skills, as well as research techniques.

Course Materials: Holt McDougal. *Literature*. Houghton Harcourt Publishing Company. 2012. Textbook is also online with an access code.

Steinbeck, John. *Of Mice and Men*. Bantam Books. 1937.

Lee, Harper. *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Harper Collins Publishers. 1960.

Shakespeare, William. *Macbeth*.

## **COURSE EXPECTATIONS**

### **Typical day:**

10 minutes: Silent reading. Enter class in an orderly manner; find your seat and start reading silently as the bell rings. Approved materials include: novels, short stories, and non-fiction (no textbooks, however). If you need suggestions for good books, just ask!

45 minutes: Daily lesson, usually blocked into 2-3 activities—such as discussions, sharing, writing sessions, quizzes, tests, etc.

You may expect to be assigned homework several times per week. Homework is due when the bell rings at the beginning of the period.

### **Behavior Expectations and Consequences**

- Show up to class on time. When the bell rings, class starts.
- No cell phones allowed. If I see it I take it. First offense = taken, get back at end of period, second offense = get back at end of day, third offense = phone goes to office and must be picked up by parent/guardian.
- Ask questions if you don't understand.
- Listen to and show respect for the views of other members.
- Food/drink are allowed, but not near computers, and MUST be cleaned up after. Class privileges for food and drink may be revoked if messes become a problem.
- Attendance: KSD policy states that a student may receive a reduced or failing grade if they have 12 or more absences during a semester.

**Tardy Policy:** 1<sup>st</sup> offense = verbal warning, 2<sup>nd</sup> offense = parents contacted, 3<sup>rd</sup> offense = parents contacted + lunch or after school detention, 4<sup>th</sup> offense = parents contacted and referral written.

**Note on computer use:** Use of school district computers means that you agree to operate the equipment responsibly and appropriately. Damage to computers, the computer system, or the software, or the theft of equipment or software will result in school discipline and fines to pay for repair or losses. No games, music CDs, or unauthorized internet use is permitted on the computers.

**Grading:** Points are earned for most work. This includes homework, silent reading, participation in class discussions, tests, quizzes, projects, and notebooks. Your grade is based on your total points earned for the semester, but the final for each semester will be worth 10% of your grade.

Letter grade breakdown:

93-100% = A	83-86% = B	73-76% = C	60-66% = D
90-92% = A-	80-82% = B-	70-72% = C-	<60% = F
87-89% = B+	77-79% = C+	67-69% = D+	

**Cheating and/or plagiarism unacceptable,** and will result in a grade of zero for the assignment as the **minimum** consequence. This includes everyone involved; for example, if you allow someone to copy your work, you are also cheating just as much as the person who copies you.

**Late Work Policy:** Late work will receive a penalty of 10% off per day for a maximum of 50% off for 5 or more days late. Late work will not be accepted after the unit in which it was assigned has completed.

**Makeup work is your responsibility.** An unexcused absence does not get to make-up the work. Silent readings may be made up during lunch or before/after school. You are allowed one extra day for each excused absence to complete work. Any questions, see Mr. Hamilton

**Materials Needed:** Composition notebook, pen or pencil, silent reading book, lined paper.

**Contact:** I can be reached by email at [christopher.hamilton@ksd.org](mailto:christopher.hamilton@ksd.org) or through the school's phone system at 509-222-6074 (leave a message). You can also sign up for reminder text messages from me using Remind. It is an app on my phone that allows me to text you and students using an intermediary phone number. I don't see your phone number and you don't see mine. If you want to sign up, text @kamiakin to 81010. These texts will include reminders about paperwork, assignments or class location changes. You can also check my school website for important assignments and daily class activities: <http://hamiltonkahs.weebly.com>

As part of our curriculum, student may watch movies that need parent permission. They are listed below. Please mark if you approve of your student watching the movie during class time.

*Of Mice and Men (PG-13)* is used to discuss character relationships from the novel.

\_\_\_\_\_ Agree      \_\_\_\_\_ Disagree

*The Scottsboro Boys (NR)* is a PBS documentary used to connect events in To Kill a Mockingbird with a real-world example of a similar event.

\_\_\_\_\_ Agree      \_\_\_\_\_ Disagree

*Great Performances: Macbeth (2010, NR)* is used to aid in understanding of the text and to discuss character progression and motivation.

\_\_\_\_\_ Agree      \_\_\_\_\_ Disagree

I have read these expectations. I understand how grades are calculated and how to get extra help. I also understand that I choose my own behaviors and the resulting consequences, positive or negative.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

*Parent(s): Please provide an email address and/or the best phone number where you can be contacted during the day:*\_\_\_\_\_