

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

English III College Prep is a course for students who have successfully demonstrated an average or above-average ability to perform on-grade-level language, analytical, composition and reading skills. The curriculum includes further development in literary analysis, vocabulary development, composition, and research. The focus of the course is on understanding American literature from the Pre-Colonial era to the present.

STATE STANDARDS:

All standards for the 2016-17 school year may be found on the following webpage:

[https://www.tn.gov/assets/entities/sbe/attachments/1-29-16 II B English Language Arts Attachment.pdf](https://www.tn.gov/assets/entities/sbe/attachments/1-29-16%20II%20B%20English%20Language%20Arts%20Attachment.pdf)

INSTRUCTION:

Topics Covered

English III is a course that provides a survey of American literature and prepares students for the TCAP Writing Assessment and state-administered EOC exam. There is an intense focus on writing skills—namely, the ability to write clearly, argumentatively, and purposefully. Additionally, literary analysis and research is emphasized in order to help prepare students for college-level coursework and hone critical thinking skills.

General Pacing

The following outline should provide a sense of the course's trajectory throughout the semester. However, the pacing and content of the course is subject to change as is deemed necessary by the instructor:

Module 1

- Writing/Grammar Review
- Pre-Colonial and Native American Literature
- Puritan Literature & *The Crucible*

Module 2

- Romanticism & Poetry
- Transcendentalism & Essays

Module 3

- Civil War Documents & Social Change
- Realism
- Naturalism

miscellaneous

- EOC Pre-Test Review (likely to occur as a break in Module 4 due to testing schedules)

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Loose-leaf notebook paper (college-ruled preferred)
- Blue, black, or other dark-inked pens
- Binder for class materials
- Tabs for notebook (two are required but students may use more as they deem necessary)

FEES:

There are no English/Language Arts fees required for this course.

RESOURCES:

The following resources are likely to be used during the course. Other resources may be added as the course progresses:

- Pearson textbook and corresponding online materials
- Pearson audio versions of textbook material
- TeacherTube
- YouTube
- Movie adaptations of literature covered in class (*The Crucible* and/or *The Great Gatsby* (2013) are likely to be shown as well as the short film *An Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge*)
- Educational video clips discussing historical eras and/or biographical information of authors pulled from reputable online sources (Biography Channel, PBS, academic websites, etc.)
- News clips and articles from major news sources (CNN, *The New York Times*, etc.)

OBJECTIONABLE MATERIAL:

If you do not approve of a specific resource listed in this syllabus, please make your request to me in writing and an alternative assignment and/or materials will be provided. The request should include your name, the child's name, the specific activity/materials in which you do not want your child to participate or to which you do not want them exposed, and the nature of your objection.

Grading Policy

Assignments will be weighted based on their complexity and course significance. Individual assignments will be discussed in class, and scoring information will be provided.

Assignments will be weighted as follows:

Final Exam – 25%

Tests & Projects– 25 %

Essays – 25%

Quizzes – 20%

Daily Grades – 5%

Letter grades will be assigned based on Knox County's set scale:

A: 93-100% B: 85-92% C: 75-84% D: 70-74% F: 69% and below

GENERAL EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENTS:

Students are expected to behave as young adults. This entails adhering to the following guidelines:

Attendance - Students are expected to be at school and in class on time unless emergency situations arise. Students not in the classroom when the tone sounds at the start of class will receive lunch detention.

Classroom Policies (Class Rules) - Students are expected to follow all of Carter High School's set guidelines. Additionally, in order to ensure success in my class, all students should keep the following simple rules in mind:

1. Be respectful.
2. Try your best.
3. Take responsibility.

These rules and their implications will be discussed at length during the first days of the semester.

Honor Code - Students should practice academic honesty by avoiding plagiarism and cheating. Students should

“Plagiarism is defined as presenting someone else’s ideas, research, or opinion as your own without proper documentation, even if it has been rephrased. It includes, but is not limited to the following:

1. Copying verbatim all or part of another’s written work;
2. Using phrases, figures, or illustrations without citing the source;
3. Paraphrasing ideas, conclusions, or research without citing the source;
4. Using all or part of a literary plot, poem, or film without attributing the work to its creator.”

If plagiarism is discovered, the assignment will be given a score of zero, and the student will receive an office referral.

Religion in the Curriculum

Per the Knox County Board of Education policy, descriptor code I-431:

The Board affirms that it is essential that the teaching about religion—and not of a religion be conducted in a factual, objective and respectful manner in accordance with the following:

1. Music, art, literature, or drama with a religious theme or basis are permitted as part of the curriculum for school-sponsored activities and programs provided it is essential to the learning experience in the various fields of study and is presented objectively;
2. The emphasis on religious themes in the arts, literature and history shall be only as extensive as necessary for a balanced and comprehensive study of these areas. Such studies shall never foster any particular religious tenets or demean any religious beliefs; and
3. Student-initiated expressions to questions or assignments which reflect their beliefs or non-beliefs about a religious theme shall be accommodated. For example, students are free to express religious belief or non-belief in compositions, art forms, music, speech and debate.

Make-Up Work Policy/Late Work Policy

Students will adhere to Carter High School’s make-up work policy. Students with excused absences will have no longer than three (3) days to make up missing work. In the case of extenuating circumstances, the student should discuss alternative deadlines with the teacher BEFORE the assignment is overdue. Students are responsible for acquiring their own make-up work; it is not the teacher’s responsibility. Late work should be turned in as soon as completed and may have points deducted. If there are extenuating circumstances preventing a student from completing his/her work, the student should speak with the teacher before the work is late. Carter High School’s re-do policy allows students to re-do assignments that *were previously attempted*

updated due to system-wide delays.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

****E-Mail:** riley.brewer@knoxschools.org OR rileybrewerchs@gmail.com

E-mail is the *best*** way to contact me. I check my e-mail frequently and will respond to you as soon as possible.

Personal Meetings: Please do not hesitate to schedule a meeting time before or after school hours. I am at school from at least 8:00 a.m. until 3:45 p.m., and generally, I am at the school before and after these times.

Academic Assistance and Intervention: If a student has an F in English, parents/guardians will be contacted and the student will be referred for tutoring. Students also may independently seek tutoring during enrichment time. If necessary, students may arrange tutoring outside of school hours. Additionally, parents and students have the ability to email the instructor to ask for academic help or to call the school to arrange tutoring and/or conferences. Students may not call, text, or send personal e-mails to the instructor.

Once you have read and understand the course syllabus, please sign on the spaces provided below and detach at the dotted line above. Return the signed portion to class by Friday, August 19th.

_____ Date: _____
(Student Signature)

_____ Date: _____
(Parent/Guardian Signature)

