



# Southern Lehigh School District

High School Syllabus

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## Applied Communications 9 2014-2015

### Course Description:

Within this course, students will focus on the fundamentals of reading and writing. Vocabulary and grammar will be taught within the context of both writing and literature. Students will study short stories, drama, and novels, which will provide them with a general overview of literature. The emphasis in writing will include the organization of coherent ideas in argument and reflective journaling.

### Course Content:

#### Literature--

Students will study short stories, novels, drama, poetry, and nonfiction and learn and practice strategies to increase reading comprehension and derive deeper meaning from texts.

#### Writing--

Students will practice writing narrative, argument, and informational texts in response to literature, to be assessed for MLA format and use of the analytical writing traits of ideas, organization, voice, word choice, sentence fluency, and conventions.

#### Vocabulary--

Word lists will be generated from the context of the literature studied. Lessons will address usage, parts of speech, synonyms, antonyms, roots, prefixes, and suffixes.

#### Grammar--

Lessons will focus on the parts of speech and parts of a sentence in order to promote correct usage in writing.

### Required Textbooks and/or Other Reading/Research Materials

The literature anthology contains short stories and poems to be read at the instructor's discretion in addition to the full-text of *Romeo and Juliet*. Students will also read shorter non-fiction and poetry from additional sources that complements each work of fiction.

*Adventures in Reading: Pegasus Edition*. Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1989.

*Seedfolks* by Paul Fleischman, 1997.

*The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins, 2008.

*Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck, 1937. (time permitting)

### Course Requirements:

Students are expected to complete assignments as directed by the instructor to ensure their success in the course.

Grade Components/Assessments:

Grades will be weighted 60% for assessments (e.g. tests, projects, essays, quizzes) and 40% for assignments (e.g. homework and classwork).

Each marking period is worth 20% of a student's overall grade. The final is worth 20% of a student's overall average:

Quarter 1	20%
Quarter 2	20%
Quarter 3	20%
Quarter 4	20%
<b>Final</b>	<b>20%</b>

Required Summer Reading/Assignments:

Students are responsible for reading ONE of the following titles over the summer. Novels are available in the library, in local bookstores, and in some cases, online or within the English department. STUDENTS WILL BE ASSESSED ON THE READINGS DURING THE FIRST DAYS OF SCHOOL.

*Crash* by Jerry Spinelli

*Stargirl* by Jerry Spinelli

*That Was Then, This is Now* by S.E. Hinton

*Rumble Fish* by S.E. Hinton