

ENGLISH PROGRAM

English Department Required Courses

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Courses Offered</u>	<u>Semesters</u>
9	Freshman English	Two Semesters
10	Sophomore English	Two Semesters
11	Junior English	Two Semesters
10, 11, 12	Communication Studies	One Semester

English Department Electives

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Courses Offered</u>	<u>Semesters</u>
11, 12	Advanced Placement English	Two Semesters
11, 12	Applications in Writing	One Semester
11, 12	Argumentation	One Semester
11, 12	British Literature	One Semester
11, 12	Composition, Literature, and Film	One Semester
11, 12	Creative Writing	One Semester
10, 11, 12	Drama	One Semester
11, 12	Journalism	One Semester
11, 12	Popular Literature	One Semester
12	Psychology and Literature	One Semester
11, 12	Reading Lab (A)	One Semester
9, 10, 11, 12	Reading Lab (I)	Multiple Semesters
12	Senior English	Two Semesters
12	Senior Rhetoric	One Semester
11, 12	Structure of the English Language	One Semester
11, 12	Survey of Modern Literature	One Semester
11, 12	Themes in Literature	One Semester

REQUIRED COURSES

FRESHMAN ENGLISH (R, I, A)

Grade: 9 Two Semesters

Freshman English is a one-year course integrating the study of language and communication. A variety of literature is explored by genre: short story, poetry, novel, drama, and nonfiction. Writing assignments include journaling, formal essays

(expository, persuasive, narrative), and creative writing. Outcomes for freshman year focus on specific skills in reading and interpreting literature; writing a variety of clear, well-constructed compositions; thinking critically and creatively; managing information and technology; organizing time and study skills; speaking and listening; and personal skills.

SOPHOMORE ENGLISH (R, I, A)

Grade: 10 Two Semesters

Sophomore English takes a thematic approach to the study of literature, writing, thinking, and speaking. Through the exploration of the various broad and transcendent themes, students learn to analyze fiction and nonfiction; compose clear and well-organized expository, narrative, persuasive, and creative pieces of writing; work cooperatively in groups; use available technology effectively; and think critically and creatively. This course builds on the skills and concepts introduced in Freshman English.

JUNIOR ENGLISH (R, I, A)

Grade: 11 Two Semesters

Junior English integrates advanced principles of composition with the study of American literature. Various writing experiences are included, with special emphasis on literary analysis and research. The study of American literature exposes the student to fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and drama. Both semesters include the reading of texts by American writers of diverse backgrounds.

COMMUNICATION STUDIES (R, I, A)

Grades: 10, 11, 12 One Semester

Communication Studies is required to meet the English graduation requirement and is designed to improve the student's research, organization, analysis, writing, speaking, and listening skills. A variety of communication experiences will be studied and performed as the major focus of the course.

ENGLISH ELECTIVES

ADVANCED PLACEMENT ENGLISH (A)

Grades: 11, 12 Two Semesters

Advanced Placement English is a one-year course open to advanced level students in the language arts areas. The course will include the serious study of literature, college level principles of rhetoric (based on current college texts), readings of traditional rhetoricians, and analysis of those readings for form, literature,

content, and philosophical viewpoint. A major goal of the course will be successful completion of the Advanced Placement test in English, for which college credit is given at many public and private universities.

APPLICATIONS IN WRITING (I)

Grades: 11, 12 One Semester

Applications in Writing guides students through improved writing techniques and skills. This course provides an option for such students to complete the four-year English requirement and is aimed at providing both college-bound and non-college-bound seniors with diverse experiences in writing applications. This course may be taken as a final culminating writing course or may be taken as a preparation for Senior Rhetoric.

ARGUMENTATION (I, A)

Grades: 11, 12 One Semester

This course qualifies for Fine Arts Credit or English Credit.

Prerequisite: Freshman English and Communication Studies

Argumentation focuses on the theoretical as well as practical concepts of human communication in a cooperative/competitive environment. Through the oral experiences of problem solving in-group discussion, persuasion in an audience, and argumentation in a variety of formats, the student will have the opportunity to develop the higher processes of oral communication. The emphasis on research and thinking and listening skills will accentuate the quality of mental cooperation and clash through the oral tasks of the course.

BRITISH LITERATURE (I)

Grades: 11, 12 One Semester

British Literature is designed to study the literature of Britain from the Anglo-Saxon period through the 20th century. Representative examples of drama, poetry, short stories, essays, and novels will be studied. Through class discussions, close reading of literature, and a variety of writing experiences, the student will learn the tools of critical analysis in order to make logical, analytical conclusions about a piece of literature.

COMPOSITION, LITERATURE, AND FILM (I)

Grades: 11, 12

One Semester

This course qualifies for Fine Arts Credit or English Credit.

Composition, Literature, and Film offers students the opportunity to sharpen their critical and observation skills by exploring film in the media. Through generous reading, writing, and viewing experiences, students will thematically and chronologically trace the influences of film and filmmaking on popular culture. The course is designed for students interested in developing and increasing their knowledge of the history, techniques, and impact of film on society and the individual.

CREATIVE WRITING (I)

Grades: 11, 12

One Semester

This course qualifies for Fine Arts Credit or English Credit.

Creative Writing is designed to provide a suitable climate for creative writing, instruction in the techniques used by creative writers, and evaluation of student writing. The types of creative writing to be emphasized include short stories, nonfiction prose, poetry, and drama (one-act play).

DRAMA (I)

Grades: 10, 11, 12

One Semester

This course qualifies for Fine Arts Credit or English Credit.

Prerequisite: Freshman English

Students will derive from Drama an appreciative understanding of dramatic literature as well as techniques of performance. Examples of dramatic literary forms will be presented for analysis. Techniques of directing these various forms will be included. Techniques of performance and character development will be part of the student involvement.

JOURNALISM (I)

Grades: 11, 12

One Semester

Journalism is concerned with five basic areas of journalism: the mass media and the newspaper's role, parts of the newspaper, writing newspaper stories, newspaper staff organization, and newspaper production. The course is designed for the student interested in newspaper reporting. The student becomes informed about the various

branches of the mass media and continues to learn the basics of journalism through actual news assignments for the school paper.

POPULAR LITERATURE (I)

Grades: 11, 12

One Semester

Popular Literature is designed to provide junior and senior students with an opportunity to explore personal preferences in reading in order to broaden students' reading experiences and encourage life-long reading habits. The emphasis in this class will be on independent choice of reading material, journal writing, and conferencing with the teacher on each book read. This class is appropriate for students who want to grow as readers and who are capable of independently motivating themselves to succeed.

PSYCHOLOGY AND LITERATURE (I)

Grade: 12

One Semester

½ credit English; ½ credit Social Studies

Psychology and Literature is a cross-curricular, two-period, team-taught class that offers students the opportunity to earn both an English and Psychology (social studies) credit. This class is designed to connect the current Psychology curriculum with literature such as novels, short stories, poetry, and essays selected to reinforce concepts common to both subject matter areas. Basic psychological principles will be learned and applied as they reveal themselves through the literature read. This course will stress student interaction, discussion, and experimentation.

READING LAB (A)

Grades: 11, 12

One Semester

Advanced Reading Lab is a course designed for grades 11-12. Students taking this course will be able to improve in comprehension, critical reading, study skills, test-taking skills, reading in all subject areas, flexible reading rate, vocabulary development, and skills necessary for improved scores in the PSAT, SAT, and ACT college entrance examinations

READING LAB (I)

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Multiple Semesters

The goals of Reading Lab include improving reading skills for success in high school and increasing interest in reading for lifelong

learning. An individualized course of study will be developed for each student.

SENIOR ENGLISH (R)

Grade: 12

Two Semesters

Senior English is designed to provide students with a review of basic skills in composition, to give them practical writing experiences, to enhance their use of the language, and to expose them to the type of literature that will prompt lifelong reading habits. Focus is provided for expanding enjoyment of literature.

SENIOR RHETORIC (I)

Grade: 12

One Semester

Senior Rhetoric is an elective course in writing for seniors who are planning to go to college. It is designed as a final course in writing for seniors in order to give them additional preparation for the level of writing that colleges require. The course covers four areas: early problems of writer's stance and outline, grammar/application, seven strategies for developing themes and writing better themes, and handling specific assignments such as writing a persuasive argument, the literary paper, and the research paper. In the process of covering the units of study in mastering expository writing, each student will write a number of carefully prepared themes with necessary revisions as suggested by the instructor, two in-class themes, and a final research paper.

STRUCTURE OF THE ENGLISH

LANGUAGE (I)

Grades: 11, 12

One Semester

Structure of the English Language is a grammar course designed to teach concepts of English

words and sentences to students in the upper grade levels. Work includes spelling and vocabulary, various approaches to grammar, and practical applications to punctuation, capitalization, and other mechanical skills.

SURVEY OF MODERN LITERATURE (I)

Grades: 11, 12

One Semester

Survey of Modern Literature is an English elective on the junior/senior level that introduces students to a wide selection of modern authors through modern novels, short stories, and drama. The general goal of the course is to develop knowledge and understanding of modern literature in its varying themes so that the students may increase their range of ideas, their sensitivity to themselves and others, and their ability to enjoy modern literature. Selected works may include mature themes and language.

THEMES IN LITERATURE (I)

Grades: 11, 12

One Semester

The Themes in Literature course is designed to provide students with in-depth coverage of one particular theme/topic from the vast collection of available literature. Each year the high school English departments identify the particular theme to be offered by each school. Themes may include African-American literature, modern poetry, classic poetry, women in literature, and others as suggested by current trends in literature education. The course includes extensive reading within the theme area, active class discussion, and a final paper/project drawn from the theme area. The themes are selected prior to the registration process and are available from the assigned counselor and/or any English teacher at the respective high schools in January.