

ENGLISH

Four years of English are required of all students. English 9 and English 10 focus on literature, composition, speaking, listening, vocabulary, grammatical conventions, and critical thinking. Eleventh and twelfth grade students have a wide variety of courses from which to choose, and they may take additional electives beyond the two credits required for grades eleven and twelve.

English 9

1341

Credit 1

English 9 is a required full-year course with a focus on literature, composition, speaking, listening, vocabulary, grammatical conventions, and critical thinking. Literature units include literary terminology, as well as various literary genres and themes, while composition units emphasize the writing process (prewriting, drafting, revising, and editing) and research using MLA documentation format. Works of literature studied include a Shakespearean play, the novel *To Kill a Mockingbird*, as well as a variety of short stories, myths, and short works of nonfiction.

Prerequisite(s): Freshman standing

English 10

1344

Credit 1

English 10 is a required full-year course that incorporates all the skills of literacy: reading, writing, speaking, listening, and critical thinking. Students will read a variety of texts—both literary and informational, write in a variety of modes, conduct a significant research project, as well as practice the art of public speaking.

Prerequisite(s): Sophomore standing

British Literature

1902

Credit 1

This challenging course is intended for college-bound students who are interested in exploring the classics of British literature from the Anglo-Saxon era through the twentieth century. Works of literature include *The Canterbury Tales*, a Shakespearean play, Romantic and Victorian-era poetry, and selections of Gothic literature, such as *Dracula* and *Wuthering Heights*. This course also includes vocabulary study, practice of grammatical conventions, and writing.

Prerequisite(s): Junior or Senior standing

American Literature**1642****Credit 1**

This challenging course, intended for college-bound students, is a survey of the major literary movements in American literature, beginning with contemporary literature in the Postmodern era, and moving backward through Modernism, Realism, and Romanticism, noting authors and representative works for each period. Students will prepare for future coursework through frequent writing assignments, which will stress analysis of literature and critical thinking, intensive vocabulary study, and review of grammar, punctuation, and mechanical conventions.

Prerequisite(s): Junior or Senior standing

Advanced Speech (Mass Media and You) 1740**Credit ½**

This course is designed for the student who wishes to pursue the study of communication media, beyond the beginning required course. The course is focused on the mass media. The student will work directly with each common form of medium that has an impact on our society including television, radio and film.

Prerequisite(s): Junior or Senior standing with an A or B grade in Speech 10

Writer's Workshop/Creative Writing 1154**Credit ½**

This class will explore the process of writing from imagination to publication. It will cover the three purposes of language: to share experience, to inform, and to persuade. The course will focus on various techniques and forms of literary expression: poetry, fiction, and nonfiction. Using techniques used by professional writers, the students will attempt to find their unique writing voices and will experiment with original modes of expression.

Prerequisite(s): Junior or Senior standing or consent of instructor

Dramatic Literature I**1240****Credit ½**

Dramatic Literature is combination of critical reading of drama as a literary genre and interpretive study of drama as a performing art. Students will read, analyze, and perform a variety of selected plays. Course content will include classical as well as modern plays. Some authors to be studied include Shakespeare, Shaw, Wilder, Ibsen, and Simon.

Dramatic Literature II**1241****Credit ½**

Dramatic Literature II is a continuation of Dramatic Lit I with an emphasis on modern plays.

Dramatic Literature III**1242****Credit ½**

This class will be a more in-depth study of classical plays.

Prerequisite(s): Drama Lit I and II

Themes in Popular Literature I (Baseball) 1692**Credit ½**

This elective course is open to juniors and seniors, and it will cover standard English skills: reading, writing, vocabulary, and language. Reading will include fiction, nonfiction, drama, and poetry. The focus of Themes in Popular Literature I is baseball.

Prerequisite(s): Junior or Senior standing

Literary Genres I (Mystery/Detective Fiction) 1694**Credit ½****Literary Genres III (Fantasy)****1696****Credit ½**

Literary Genres courses are high interest, elective English courses that feature one popular category of literature. Students will examine the elements of the featured genre through reading selections, class discussions, and writing opportunities. Literary Genres I will feature detective and mystery fiction, including works by Edgar Allan Poe, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Agatha Christie, and Harlan Coben. Literary Genres III will feature fantasy fiction, including works by authors such as Neil Gaiman and Piers Anthony.

Prerequisite(s): Junior or Senior standing

Advanced Placement Literature and Composition 1650**Credit 1**

Based on the national Advanced Placement program of the College Board, this class is designed to bridge the gap between high school and college English. Students will critically read, discuss, and write about classical and modern literature. Emphasis will be placed on careful reading and analytical writing. Research writing will be a minor component of this course. There will be an emphasis on poetry, fiction, and drama. Assignments will be similar to those given in college English classes. This course is for students who have good study habits, dedicated work ethics, and solid language skills. Students are expected to take the national AP exam. A high score on this exam could earn 3-6 college credits.

Prerequisite(s): A grade of **A** or **B** in either American Literature or British Literature.

Summer reading is required. See teacher prior to leaving for summer break for appropriate materials.

Senior Composition and Literature**1651****Credit 1**

This course will focus on various types of essay writing. Students will write several expository essays including persuasive, process and analysis, research, etc. Emphasis will be on process, organization, clarity, and adhering to MLA standards. Novels, plays and poetry will also be studied. If unsure about whether you should take this class or Advanced Placement Lit and Comp, talk to the teachers.

Prerequisite(s): Senior standing. Successful completion of American Literature or British Literature recommended.

Communication Skills**1905****Credit 1**

In this yearlong course, students will continue to develop their identities as literate individuals with valid reasons for reading and writing. They will self-regulate their learning by continually setting goals and monitoring their own achievement. For the writing workshop component of this course, students will develop and refine their individual writing processes and will practice writing effectively for different purposes and audiences. For reading workshop, students will read books of their choice every class period, with the goals of continually improving as readers in comprehension, fluency, stamina, and enjoyment. This course is geared toward students who plan to pursue technical/vocational education after high school. Note: Some colleges do not count Communications Skills toward English requirements; please consult your guidance counselor.

Prerequisite(s): Junior or Senior standing

Yearbook**8460****Credit 1**

In this yearlong course, students will study and practice publication, design, and business management using the school yearbook as their medium. Students will learn to use desktop publishing and photo editing software to produce a 200-plus page yearbook. Yearbook students will be introduced to the basics of layout design, photography, feature writing, marketing, and graphic design.

Prerequisite(s): Open to all grades with consent of instructor

READING**Progressive Reading****1202****Credit 1**

Progressive Reading is a yearlong language arts class focusing on reading and written language for student in grades 9 – 12. This class is available for students in regular and special education. It is designed to be a support program for students having difficulty with the skill of reading. The intensive 70 minute reading program is composed of three main parts. One component is computer work, which builds background, vocabulary, fluency, and other word and comprehension skills. The computer matches the student to his/her level and will automatically raise the level of his or her progress. A second element of the program is independent reading of good literature appropriate to high school interest. This reading is supported with audiotapes that include reading coaches. The third element of equal time and importance is direct skills instruction provided by trained teachers. This class will replace the student's one credit or regular English class.