

ENGLISH

The basic content of courses is the same in regular and advanced since the SOL test at the end of grade 11 is the same for all students. The differences lie in the pacing and methods of presentation of material and in the form of assignments used to evaluate progress. Students are not allowed to take two English grade level classes at the same time.

Pre English 9 Summer Academy ()

This class is for ninth-grade students who did not pass the eight-grade reading and or writing SOL or who failed English 8. This class builds upon students' prior knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, word usage, and the mechanics of writing and usually include the four aspects of language use: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Class content depends upon students' abilities and may include vocabulary building, improving spelling and grammar, developing writing and composition skills, reading silently or aloud, and improving listening and comprehension abilities. This class introduces and defines various genres of literature, with writing exercises linked to reading selections.

English 9 General ()

This class builds upon students' prior knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, word usage, and the mechanics of writing and usually include the four aspects of language use: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Grammar will include not only a review of parts of speech, but also methods of developing paragraphs and longer compositions. This class introduces and defines various genres of literature, with writing exercises linked to reading selections. Some major literary works studied include A Christmas Carol, Romeo and Juliet, Fahrenheit 451 and To Kill a Mockingbird. Units covered include those on short stories and poetry. Compositions (in class writings) are required and vocabulary will be given weekly. Students must also complete projects complementing the literature and independent reading. A research project is required.

English 9 Advanced ()

Prerequisite: English 8 SOL score of Passed Advanced on Writing and or Reading, summer reading assignment and Teacher recommendation required

This class builds upon students' prior knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, word usage, and the mechanics of writing and usually include the four aspects of language use: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Grammar will include not only a review of parts of speech, but also methods of developing paragraphs and longer compositions. This class introduces and defines various genres of literature, with writing exercises linked to reading selections. Some major literary works studied include A Christmas Carol, Romeo and Juliet, Animal Farm, Fahrenheit 451, To Kill a Mockingbird, and A Separate Peace. Units covered include those on short stories and poetry. Compositions (in class writings) are required and vocabulary will be given weekly. Students must also

complete projects complementing the literature and independent reading including one novel project each nine-weeks. Students will submit a critical review or character analysis for each independent reading. A research project is required. This class moves at a faster pace than the English 9 class.

English 10 ()

Prerequisite: English 9

This class offers a balanced focus on composition and literature. Students learn about the alternate aims and audiences of written compositions by writing persuasive, expository, critical, and creative multi-paragraph essays. Through the study of various genres of literature, students can improve their reading rate and comprehension and develop the skills to determine the author's intent and theme and to recognize the techniques used by the author to deliver his or her message. Some major literary works studied include Julius Caesar, Lord of the Flies, Night and others. Compositions (in class writings) are required with an emphasis on persuasion and exposition. Students will study grammar to improve writing skills. Vocabulary will be given weekly. Students must also complete projects complementing the literature and independent reading. A research project is required.

English 10 Advanced ()

Prerequisite: English 9, summer reading assignment and Teacher recommendation required

World literature is studied extensively in this course. This class offers a balanced focus on composition and literature. Students learn about the alternate aims and audiences of written compositions by writing persuasive, expository, critical, and creative multi-paragraph essays. Through the study of various genres of literature, students can improve their reading rate and comprehension and develop the skills to determine the author's intent and theme and to recognize the techniques used by the author to deliver his or her message. Some major literary works studied include Julius Caesar, Much Ado About Nothing, Ethan Frome, Lord of the Flies, Night, and others. Compositions (in class writings) are required with an emphasis on persuasion and exposition. Vocabulary will be given weekly with an emphasis on SAT words. Students must also complete projects complementing the literature and independent reading. A research project is required. This class moves at a faster pace than the English 10 class.

English 11 ()

Prerequisite: English 10

SOL Test Required

American literature is studied extensively in this course. This class continues to develop student's writing skills, emphasizing clear, logical writing patterns, word choice, and usage, as students write essays and use techniques for writing research papers. Students will study grammar to improve writing skills. Students continue to read works of literature, which often form the backbone of writing assignments. Compositions (in class writings), are required with an emphasis on persuasion. Some major literary

works studied include The Scarlet Letter or The Crucible, Fever 1791, and A Raisin in the Sun. Vocabulary will be given weekly. Students must also complete projects complementing the literature and independent reading. A research project is required.

English 11 Advanced ()

Prerequisite: English 10, summer reading assignment and Teacher recommendation required

SOL Test Required

American literature is studied extensively in this course. This class continues to develop student's writing skills, emphasizing clear, logical writing patterns, word choice, and usage, as students write essays and use techniques for writing research papers. Students will study grammar to improve writing skills. Students continue to read works of literature, which often form the backbone of writing assignments. Compositions (in class writings), are required with an emphasis on persuasion. Some major literary works studied include The Scarlet Letter, Fever 1791, My Antonia, Uncle Tom's Cabin, Twelve Angry Men, and A Raisin in the Sun. Vocabulary will be given weekly. Students must also complete projects complementing the literature and independent reading. A research project is required. This class moves at a faster pace than the English 11 class.

English 11 Pre AP Literature & Composition ()

Prerequisite: English 10, summer reading assignment and Teacher recommendation required

SOL Test Required

This course focuses on preparation to meet the challenge of the college-level work required in AP Literature & Composition for 12th grade. This class continues to develop student's writing skills, emphasizing clear, logical writing patterns, word choice, and usage, as students write essays and use techniques for writing research papers. Students will study grammar to improve writing skills. Students continue to read works of literature, which often form the backbone of writing assignments. Compositions (in class writings), are timed. A survey of American as well as World literature with an intensive study of novels, short stories, poems, and plays is the focus. Independent reading and writing outside of class is expected. Summer reading assignment is required and may be picked up by the first week of May.

English 12 ()

Prerequisite: English 11

A survey of World literature with a focus on British literature is studied in this course. This class blends composition and literature into a cohesive whole as students write critical and comparative analyses of selected literature, continuing to develop their language skills. Some major literary works studied include Beowulf, Grendel, The Canterbury Tales, Twelfth Night, and Frankenstein. Vocabulary will be given weekly. Writing will focus on persuasive multi-paragraph essays, college application compositions, and resumes. A ten-page research project is required.

English 12 Advanced ()

Prerequisite: English 11, summer reading assignment and Teacher recommendation required

A survey of World literature with a focus on British literature is studied extensively in this course. This class blends composition and literature into a cohesive whole as students write critical and comparative analyses of selected literature, continuing to develop their language skills. Some major literary works studied include Beowulf, The Poisonwood Bible, The Canterbury Tales, Twelfth Night, Frankenstein, and Heart of Darkness. Vocabulary will be given weekly. Writing will focus on persuasive multi-paragraph compositions, college application compositions and resumes. A ten-page research project is required. This class moves at a faster pace than the English 12 class.

English 12 AP Literature & Composition ()

Prerequisite: Pre AP English 11, summer reading assignment and Teacher recommendation required

Senior AP Literature & Composition is a course designed to allow secondary students, who are capable and willing, to attempt reading and writing on works typically found in the sophomore year of the college curriculum. As a survey of World Literature, this course will include not only a study of major literary works of each historical period, but also a study of the economical, moral, social environment which produced the literature. Critical analysis of the structure and genre of literature will be accompanied by compositions of critical analysis, explication, and persuasion. Library research and extensive reading of complete works are required. This is a writing intensive course. This course will prepare students for the National AP Literature & Composition exam in May.

Creative Writing ()

Grade Level: 10 - 12

Prerequisite: English 9

This course is a workshop where students write and share their work, as well as a place to receive and give criticism to improve their technique and individual style in poetry, short story, drama, essays and other forms of writing. Membership in the class means automatic membership in the Society for the Preservation of the Imagination which sponsors and judges contests throughout the year.

Composition: Yearbook ()

Prerequisite: Application and Recommendation

Grade Level: 10 -12

Students in this course spend the majority of the year preparing the school yearbook. Topics include layout, copywriting, creative design, basic photography, business management, advertising, journalism and desktop publishing. This class provides students with real world work place experiences. Upon completion of the annual

yearbook, students will engage in the production of other school-based publications. In addition, throughout the year the students will contribute school articles and information to local media.

Applied English and Communications ()

Grade Level: 10-12

This class teaches students communication skills – reading, writing, listening, speaking – concentrating on “real world” applications. This class emphasizes the practical application of communication as a business tool – using technical reports and manuals, business letters, resumes, and applications as examples – rather than emphasize language arts skills as applied to scholarly and literary materials. Students are required to deliver formal and informal oral presentations similar to those required in the work place.

Literature of a Genre: Drama ()

Prerequisite: B average in English, teacher recommendation Grade Level: 10-12

Through various modes of expression and performance, student will investigate dramatic literature, theatrical styles, and historical periods. Students will study and respond to a variety of theatre experiences that will refine their communicative, collaborative, analytical, interpretive, and problem-solving skills. Student will expand their artistic abilities and appreciation of the theatrical arts.