College Composition & Literature

Senior English

This course is best suited for....

- Students interested in a wide variety of majors or who are undecided.
- Students are more interested in shorter non-fiction texts, in addition to select fiction,
- Students who are independent, self-motivated, and can successfully manage their time,
- Students who want to improve their critical thinking and writing skills for college.
- Students interested in fulfilling senior English requirement,
- Students interested in an array of readings: classical literature, various short fiction, current nonfiction, poetry,
- Students who thrive on student-centered class discussions,
- Students who enjoy meaningful research projects aligned with themes from the literature (e.g. hero's journey, fate vs. free will).

What is the course description?

College Composition & Literature is a senior year writing intensive course designed to immerse high school students into the expectations and rigor of college writing. During the first semester, students will read, comprehend, analyze, and evaluate multiple nonfiction texts used in Expository Writing 101 at Rutgers University. Through the process of writing multiple drafts of expository essays, students will develop independent theses that connect and respond to the ideas and information in the texts they read. Throughout the course of the year, students will extend their understanding of the college writing process by reading and making connections across thematically linked fiction and nonfiction multimodal texts. Students will continue to learn and develop the skills of clear, correct, effective English by reading essays, longer works of nonfiction prose, and literary criticism.

Senior English is a course comprised of a wide variety of challenging readings. Students employ an intensive, interpretative, and critical approach to modern and classical literature through class and independent reading, through small and large group discussion, and a variety of writing experiences. Writing assignments include the analysis of text, structure, and style and incorporate writing for formal and informal occasions. Students develop a mastery of expository and analytical writing, research and public speaking skills. Throughout this course, students learn to use credible sources, effectively utilize technology and collaborate with peers to become better communicators of information.

During the first marking period students focus on college essay writing.

What are the expectations in this course?

Students are expected to:

- Complete a summer reading assignment,
- Prepare for college essay and build a resume,
- Complete 5 five-page papers, along with other shorter written responses,
- Read and analyze nonfiction essays on their own with minimal guidance from the teacher,
- Become critical thinkers in order to analyze/critique difficult texts
- Develop an original argument (thesis) based on seemingly unrelated texts,
- Reflect on essays with peers and teacher,
- Self-regulate and follow a calendar of assignments (similar to a college syllabus),
- Read approx. 1-2 full length novels.
- *Please refer to the 2020-2021 grouping procedures for placement criteria.

Students are expected to:

- Complete a summer reading assignment,
- Prepare for college essay and build a resume,
- Critically view documentaries and films,
- Be a part of a broad scope of (group based activities, projects, presentations),
- Read approximately 4-6 full length novels,
- Read a variety of nonfiction texts and poetry,
- Prepare for student-led in class discussions,
- Collaborate with peers on literature analysis,
- Enhance their understanding of the surrounding world through intense study of fiction and nonfiction,
- Write on demand and process essays (e.g. argument, synthesis, narrative, expository, etc.

*Please refer to the 2020-2021 grouping procedures for placement criteria.

Do I have the option to earn college credits?

YES. Rutgers (3 credits): The five essays will be reviewed by a Rutgers Writing Instructor. Receiving an A in the course <u>DOES</u>
<u>NOT</u> guarantee an "A" from Rutgers. After a Rutgers portfolio review, students will find out their "Rutgers Grade" and have the option to purchase the credits (approx. \$1300). The letter-grade will transfer and students will have an official college transcript from Rutgers.

**Please note, it is best to reach out to your child's counselor or a specific college's admissions office if you have questions about dual enrollment programs or credit transfer.

NO. Students enrolled in Senior English will fulfill the requirement of an English class each year of high school.

**Disclaimer: This guide is meant to highlight the two courses and help with course selection. Prices and course expectations are subject to change. Please direct any questions to the English Department Supervisor.