

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

English classes help develop the skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening. These are essential elements in everything people do.

REQUIRED:

GRADE 9	GRADE 10	GRADE 11	GRADE 12
English 9A English 9B	English 10 A English 10 B Public Speaking (or gr 11)	Public Speaking English 11A – Early Am Lit English 11B – Mod Lit/Wrtg Or College Composition	British Lit & Comp Thematic Lit & Comp or College Composition Or College Literature with Honors American Lit

ELECTIVES:

Poetry/Song Writing Book Club History of Film Literature of Holocaust Playwriting Creative Writing Mythology Yearbook Production Symposium	Poetry/Song Writing Mindfulness Book Club Playwriting Creative Writing Mythology Mythology II Yearbook Production History of Film Literature of Holocaust Intro to Philosophy Symposium	Poetry/Song Writing Mindfulness Book Club Playwriting Creative Writing Mythology Mythology II History of Film Yearbook Production Literature of Holocaust Intro to Philosophy	Poetry/Song Writing Mindfulness Book Club Playwriting Creative Writing Mythology Mythology II History of Film Yearbook Production Literature of Holocaust Intro to Philosophy
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100 **English 9A**

2 terms 1/2 credit

Pre: None

Grade Level: 9 – REQUIRED

Course Summary: Learning includes (but is not just limited to) the following units of literature: Short Story/Introduction to Literature & Literary Terms, the Study of Poetry and William Shakespeare's play, *Romeo & Juliet*. In addition, there will be a variety of writing and grammar units: Parts of the Sentence and Sentence Writing Types/Formulas, correction of Run On(s), Comma Splice(s), and Sentence Fragments. Throughout this course, students participate in numerous writing assignments ranging from journal writing to paragraph and essay writing. Over the course of the trimester, students will learn a variety of vocabulary skills (which include Greek & Latin Roots) and basic grammar usage skills. Students are challenged to think, assess, and write at a much higher level of knowledge.

102 **English 9B**

2 terms 1/2 credit

Pre: None

Grade Level: 9 – REQUIRED

Course Summary: Students continue where English 9A left off. Your writing instruction continues with the Standard Keyhole Essay. During this class, you will read various non-fiction essays & editorials as well as a novel or memoir. You will be challenged to read, write, and analyze through a variety of classroom assignments. Additionally, you will learn a variety of context reading strategies through a variety of materials which will fully engage you in what you are reading. As in English 9A, vocabulary development and sentence building exercises will continue to be a fundamental part of your learning. Ultimately, you will work to develop and create more accuracy, variety and clarity in your own writing.

104 English 10**2 terms 1/2 credit****Pre:** None**Grade Level:** 10 - REQUIRED

Course Summary: English 10 is a class designed to ensure that you gain competency in expository, narrative, and descriptive writing. Class time is spent refining grammar and punctuation skills and using the writing process (writing, revising, and editing). The literature portion of this class includes novels. Additionally, you will continue to reinforce and build on the context reading skills and vocabulary development from English 9 as you move to prepare for the state standardized test given in the spring of your sophomore year and the ACT test.

105 English 10 Research**2 terms 1/2 credit****Pre:** None**Grade Level:** 10 - REQUIRED

Course Summary: English 10 Research builds and further expands on your reading and writing skills and concepts. You will demonstrate the research process in the first term through the production of a formal research paper using MLA structure. In the second term, the novel, *A Long Way Gone*, will be studied in a unit combining a structured developmental program of concepts and skills including literary elements and analysis along with critical thinking. You will continue to develop and expand your vocabulary along with context reading skills plus prepare for the state standardized test given to sophomores in the spring.

106 English 11A – Early American Literature & Writing**2 terms 1/2 credit****Pre:** None**Grade Level:** 11 - REQUIRED

Course Summary: This survey course will trace the development of American literature from the Colonial Period to the Post-Modern Period. In addition, *The Crucible*, by Arthur Miller, and *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck will be read, studied, and tested. An examination of literary movements and the writings of prominent American authors from across the literary history of the nation will be used to help in the understanding of how authors reflect and influence American society. A Persuasive research paper dealing with a relevant social event will also be researched and written, culminating in an in-class presentation. In addition, the course will include numerous journals, Critical Analysis, and a review of grammar as well as a text originated and research-based writing

107 English 11B – Modern American Literature & Writing**2 terms 1/2 credit****Pre:** None**Grade Level:** 11 - REQUIRED

Course Summary: This continuation of the junior required sequence will trace the development of American literature from post-Civil War to today. The course will cover the writings of London, Hemingway and Steinbeck as well as other American authors of poetry and prose. Novels to be read include *Catcher in the Rye* (J.S. Salinger) and *The Help* (Kathryn Stockett). An examination of the different genres and literary movements will be used to understand how authors reflect and influence society. Vocabulary, essay writing, and grammar instruction will continue.

108 Honors American Literature**2 term 1/2 credit****Pre:** To be taken with College Literature to complete 4 term English 12 requirements.**Grade Level:** 12, only if College Comp & Research were taken in gr. 11

Course Summary: This 2 term English course will trace the development of American Literature from colonial through modern times. You will discover how literature helps in the understanding of what it means to be American as you study Major American movements, themes, and authors to witness how literature influences society and how society impacts literature. You will read a variety of American novels, along with a variety of short stories, poems, and plays. The course will also emphasize discussion, a group presentation, and literary analysis.

109 British Literature & Composition**2 terms 1/2 credit****Pre:** None**Grade Level:** 12 - REQUIRED

Course Summary: This trimester senior English course will include a survey of British poetry, novels, dramas, and short stories and nonfiction from the Anglo-Saxon Period to the present time including major authors such as Chaucer, Shakespeare, Milton, Dickens, and Lawrence. The course will emphasize persuasive writing with argumentation, critical evaluation, and expository writing with personal narrative. Discussion, tests, class participation, and essays will be required. In addition, each senior will be writing a letter of recognition for a ROCORI staff member that has positively influenced that student, either academically or creatively, which will be presented to the staff member on Teacher appreciation day in May.

110 Thematic Literature & Composition**2 terms 1/2 credit****Pre:** None**Grade Level:** 12 - REQUIRED

Course Summary: This two-term senior English course explores universal themes in literature and video. You will seek out central ideas such as rules of war, individual rights vs. collective rights, coming-of-age and other common themes. You will identify, compare and contrast literary themes while responding to literature. A variety of discussions, tests, class presentations, and essays will be required.

****SEE COLLEGE PLACEMENT PAGE IN GUIDE BOOKLET

117 College Composition and Research (CITHS)**4 terms 1 credit RHS 6 College credits****Pre:** CITHS requirements and must have a 3.0 GPA in English for Juniors**Grade Level:** 11 & 12 **AND** a cumulative English GPA of 3.0 or higher for juniors and 2.6 or higher for seniors

Course Summary: College Writing is a freshman-level college writing course. Thesis development, idea organization, grammar and usage problems, and library research are studied and practiced. Students will be expected to write for different purposes and complete a persuasive research paper. College credit will be earned when the course is successfully completed. This course will cover ENGL 1101 & ENGL 1102.

118 College Literature (CITHS)**2 terms .50 credit RHS 3 College Credits****Pre:** A passing grade of a C or higher in College Composition and Research**Grade Level:** 12

Course Summary: Introduction to Literature is a college literature-based course in which students will read and discuss poems, short stories, plays, and novels. Writing critical and reflective papers is an important aspect of this course of study. College credit will be earned when the course is successfully completed. This course will cover ENGL 1110

125 Public Speaking**2 terms 1/2 credit****Pre:** None**Grade Level:** 10 - 11 REQUIRED IN EITHER GRADE

Course Summary: This class will help students gain an understanding of their communication skills in small and large group discussions and competency in the art of speaking before an audience. Class time will be spent to gain an understanding in the basics of communications, learning how to be a better listener, evaluating speakers, practicing speaking in front of groups, researching, organizing, composing and presenting a variety of speeches. Speeches range from how-to-speeches, memorization, impromptu, manuscript, informative research, and persuasive. Please note this is a hands-on participatory class which requires consistent attendance.

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126 Poetry/Songwriting*available 2024-25 school year***1 term 1/4 credit****Pre:** None**Grade Level:** 9-12

Course Summary: This is an opportunity for students to express themselves creatively with the freest written form. Every day students will be enjoying and analyzing songs as well as working on poems or songs. Each week that they will choose the best of what they have written to share at the end of the week. Different prompts, structures, and forms will be encouraged for students to incorporate in their composition. There will be collaboration on projects and peer reviews as well.

127 Mindfulness**1 term 1/4 credit****Pre:** None**Grade Level:** 10 - 12

Course Summary: Mindfulness training is a powerful way to develop and sustain optimal mental and physical health. In an age where there is an unending flood of information and entertainment to be consumed, it is more important than ever to practice consciously observing the mind and reducing stress. This class will focus on drawing attention to the breath and other present sensations in a daily practice for 20 minutes. The remainder of time each day will be spent on reflection journals, discussion of how to handle various obtrusive thoughts/emotions, and reading/viewing content based on the application of mindfulness in life.

128 Book Club**1 term 1/4 credit****Pre:** None**Grade Level:** 9 - 12

Course Summary: In this course, you will select novels from a variety of popular, contemporary fiction within a thematic or genre focus (dystopian, historical fiction, mystery, coming-of-age etc.) to compare and contrast. You will read two independently and another in a book club. You will also choose from a menu of assessment options. Escape to another world by feeding your mind while reading literature of your choice. *You may take this course more than once with a different thematic or genre focus.*

131 History of Film**1 term 1/4 credit****Pre:** None**Grade Level:** 9-12

Course Summary: This is an exploration of the history of filmmaking, its technology, directors, stars, and techniques. We study film terminology, inventions, significant dates in the film industry, and genres (types) of film. Students view films including silent, black and white, and color films. Students will be able to identify and evaluate the influence of the film industry on culture and the influence of culture on the film industry.

132 Creative Writing: Playwriting*available 2023-24 school year***1 term 1/4 credit****Pre:** None**Grade Level:** 9-12

Course Summary: In this course we will be looking at the entire process of playwriting, from the concept and background of an idea, to discussing Plot/Characters/Tone/Transitions/Script structuring/Character Analysis/POV issues/Staging, as well as, other aspects of theater production. Students will begin with an overview of the process and then break it down into parts in order to compose a finished script – which will then be presented in Readers Theater. This is definitely a “hands-on” class, where you will be expected to have self-motivation on completing assignments, and you **must** allow yourself to be creative and try this new type of writing.

133 Creative Writing**1 term 1/4 credit****Pre:** None (**may take more than once**)**Grade Level:** 9 - 12

Course Summary: Do you love to write? Are you a poet at heart? Then, this is an opportunity for you to try various types of writing. Students will be given a great deal of freedom in the style, length, and material they create. Over the course of six weeks, students will create a variety of individual writings in an uninhibited atmosphere as they work to

improve their individual writing abilities. During this time, students will receive a range of writing tips on such topics as detail development, vocabulary (word choice), and grammar. Students who take this class need to be motivated and able to work in an independent style environment as grading will be done via an individual student subjective basis.

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135 Mythology I**1 term 1/4 credit****Pre:** None**Grade Level:** 9 - 12

Course Summary: Embark on your own odyssey exploring Greek mythology. This is a survey of Greek mythology to discover why we believe what we believe. We will also be using the films *Clash of the Titans (2010)*, *Troy*, *The Odyssey*, and *Jason and the Argonauts* as a basis for comparison. Students will also be expected to share ideas and projects with their classmates on the lesser gods.

136 Mythology II**1 term 1/4 credit****Pre:** Mythology I**Grade Level:** 10-12

Course Summary: This is a class for ANY student who questions the inner-workings of the world around them. The focus of Mythology II will now be directed by students as they select (from their own heritage or interest level) the cultures/myths studied during this term. Possible choices in myths include (but are not limited to) any of the following stories: Norse, Asian, Egyptian, Native American

137 Yearbook Production**1 term 1/4 credit****Pre:** None **May be taken more than once with instructor approval****Grade Level:** 9-12

Course Summary: Help shape how this school year will be remembered by helping produce pages for the yearbook. This class is recommended for students who are interested in printed media. Emphasis will be placed on journalistic copy writing, interviewing, editing, and marketing and sales. You may join the yearbook staff without enrolling for this class.

138 Introduction to Philosophy**1 term 1/4 credit****Pre:** None**Grade Level:** 10 – 12

Course Summary: We will contemplate and discuss the big questions! What are the key ingredients for a good and successful life? What provides the greatest value and meaning in life? Do we *really* know what we think we know? What is reality? What inspires us to see beauty? This class will approach these open-ended questions by listening to and reading from old and new masterpieces and then developing our own conclusions through writing and discussion

139 Literature of the Holocaust**1 term 1/4 credit****Pre:** None**Grade Level:** 9 - 12

Course Summary: This literature class is open to all grades and will study a variety of literature types dealing with the period in history called The Holocaust (1933-1945). Literature choices will include a variety of writings Literature choices will deal with historical accounts of Jewish resistance, ghettos, concentration and death camps, as well as reflections, interpretations, and the arts. **This class contains mature material.**

144 Symposium**1 term 1/4 credit****Pre:** None**Grade Level:** 9

Course Summary: Would you like a class where you can work on study skills, organization, and materials from your core classes? This six-week course is designed to give students a chance to cultivate a variety of skills to help them be successful at the high school level and beyond.