



English Department Course Offerings

Pre-AP English I

Course #: 4045

Grade: 9

Prereq: None

Credit: 1 Core English

Weight: Honors (.5)

Pre-AP English I comprises a rigorous curriculum that prepares students for college-level (AP) classes. In this course, students will...

- read deliberately, thoughtfully, and critically a variety of literature from varying genres, periods, and cultures;
- analyze the significance of figurative language, theme, historical and social values in a literary work;
- study various modes of composition, such as personal, expository, and analytical;
- use the writing process effectively with attention to inquiry and research, prewriting, drafting, revising, editing and publishing;
- produce a variety of short compositions as responses to personal, expository, and literary prompts;
- improve and strengthen vocabulary and use it effectively in both writing and speaking;
- improve oral communication skills in a variety of formats (class and group discussions and individual presentations);
- improve understanding of grammatical conventions and use appropriately in written and oral communications;
- research a topic and construct a detailed MLA essay with textual detail and parenthetical documentation.

Pre-AP English II

Course #: 24052

Grade: 10

Prereq: 4045

Credit: 1 Core English

Weight: Honors (.5)

Pre-AP English II continues the preparation for AP classes begun in Pre-AP English I. In this course, students will...

- read thoughtfully and critically literature from different genres, periods and cultures;
- analyze how various literary and rhetorical devices and techniques contribute to a literary work;
- analyze the significance of historical and social values in a literary work;
- further practice the various modes of composition, with increased length and thesis sophistication;
- continue to use the steps in the writing process with attention to inquiry and research, prewriting, drafting, revising, editing, and preparing the final copy;
- further increase and strengthen reading, writing, and speaking vocabularies;
- improve oral communication skills through class discussions and presentations;
- continue to hone mechanics and usage skills and apply them in their written and oral communication;
- research a topic and construct a detailed MLA essay with textual detail and parenthetical documentation.

AP English Lang & Comp

Course #: 4057

Grade: 11

Prereq: 24052

Credit: 1 Core English

Weight: AP (1)

The AP English Language and Composition course focuses on the development and revision of evidence-based analytic and argumentative writing, the rhetorical analysis of nonfiction texts, and the decisions writers make as they compose and revise. Students evaluate, synthesize, and cite research to support their arguments. Additionally, they read and analyze rhetorical elements and their effects in nonfiction texts—including images as forms of text— from a range of disciplines and historical periods. The AP English Language and Composition course aligns to an introductory college-level rhetoric and writing curriculum.



AP English Lit & Comp

Course #: 4010

Grade: 12

Prereq: 4057

Credit: 1 Core English

Weight: AP (1)

The AP English Literature and Composition course focuses on reading, analyzing, and writing about imaginative literature (fiction, poetry, drama) from various periods. Students engage in close reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature to deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure. As they read, students consider a work's structure, style, and themes, as well as its use of figurative language, imagery, and symbolism. Writing assignments include expository, analytical, and argumentative essays that require students to analyze and interpret literary works. The AP English Literature and Composition course aligns to an introductory college-level literature and writing curriculum.

Creative Writing

Course #: 90207

Grade: 10-12

Prereq: 4045

Credit: .5 Elective

Weight: None (0)

Creating Writing focuses on the creative process through a variety of written forms including short stories and poetry. Style variations will be taught through self and peer examination. An individual project is required and a daily journal is part of the course. Students will have an opportunity to submit their work to contests and for publication. Offered fall semester only.

Writing About Film

Course #: 4302

Grade: 11-12

Prereq: 24052

Credit: .5 Elective

Weight: None (0)

In Writing About Film, students will take the writing and analysis skills they've learned in previous English courses and apply them to the analysis and discussion of films from the 1920s to the present. Students write in a variety of ways about film, ranging from informal journals to reviews to critical essays. We will cover a brief history of film as an art form and discuss various approaches to writing about film (e.g., film history, genre, formalism, auteurism) as well as how to appropriately incorporate film-specific terminology. Requirements of the course will include in-class film viewings, formal and informal discussions, journal entries, and essays. Offered spring semester only.

Journalism & Digital Media

Course #: 4111

Grade: 9-12

Prereqs: None

Credit: .5 Elective

Weight: None (0)

Journalism and Digital Media is designed to achieve the following objectives: 1) to develop a better understanding of the news media and its relation to the democratic process, 2) to develop the ability to distinguish between fact and opinion and to form intelligent judgments, 3) to learn the basic skills in the various forms of news writing, feature writing, editorial writing, editing, newspaper design, and desktop publishing, 4) to explore the various career opportunities of journalism and the mass media, 5) to provide training for participation on the school newspaper and yearbook staffs.

Online News

Course #: 4112

Grade: 10-12

Prereqs: 4111

Credit: 1 Elective

Weight: None (0)

The advanced news reporting staff will produce an online news site. The publication will act as its own business with the students setting the budget and selling advertising. Students will explore the foundations of good journalism writing at an advanced level; the difference between opinion and propaganda; the design concepts which sell a story to the reader; online podcasting and broadcasting; and photojournalism. The staff may also participate in state and national contests and/or conventions.

Yearbook

Course #: 4240

Grade: 10-12

Prereqs: 4111 and

Advisor Approval

Credit: 1 Elective

Weight: None (0)

The primary objective of the yearbook staff is to provide a complete, reliable story of the school year for the student body, the faculty and the community. Through a learning lab, students will develop skills in leadership, feature writing headline and caption writing, editing, proofreading, design, photojournalism, advertising, advanced computer skills, marketing and sales. In order to keep up with the current trends in yearbook production and to establish an adherence to acceptable journalistic standards, students are encouraged to attend local, state and national workshops and/or conferences.

Reading for Pleasure

Course #: 4210

Grade: 10-12

Prereqs: None

Credit: .5 Elective

Weight: None (0)

Reading for Pleasure is a course for bookworms or those interested in becoming one! This course is designed for students in mind that wish they had time during the school day to cozy up and read. Class time will be devoted to reading material of student choice. Additionally, students will share book recommendations amongst their peers, create book trailers, reflect upon what they read, maintain a written reflection journal, and become active, critical readers.