

English

The Argo Community High School English Department equips students with writing, communication, critical thinking, and literacy skills for success at Argo High School, college, and/or career.

Level	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
College Preparatory	Writing 1* (Semester) & English 1* (Semester) Literacy and Composition 1* (Annual)	English 2 Literacy and Composition 2*	English 3	Choose two semester courses from the eight semester options below: Contemporary Fiction Creative Writing Graphic Novels Latin-American Literature African-American Literature Film Analysis Drama Analysis World Literature Pre-College Writing
Honors	Honors Writing 1* (Semester) & Honors English 1* (Semester)	Honors English 2*	Honors English 3 AP English Language and Composition*	AP English Literature and Composition Dual Credit College Writing* (Semester) Dual Credit Public Speaking* (Semester)

*This course satisfies the ISBE graduation requirement for “Intensive Writing”.

Grade 9

Course Descriptions:

ENGLISH 1

EN300

Year: 9

Credit: .5 or 1

This course focuses on both literature and composition. Students will develop communication and literacy skills through reading, viewing, and listening to many forms of literature. Students will learn different ways to read and interpret literature. Students will use literary interpretations, analysis, and comparisons to respond to works of literature – fiction and non-fiction. Students will use the writing process to write paragraphs for various purposes, to improve sentence structure and style, and to write a variety of multi-paragraph essays. Most essays are in response to literature.

This course is a semester on years when it runs along with Writing 1 or year-long in years that it is the sole 9th grade English option.

**This course satisfies .5 or 1 of the ISBE 2-year graduation requirement for “Intensive Writing”.*

WRITING 1

EN302

Year: 9

Credit: .5

This composition course will use a writing workshop model to teach students how to write to be successful in their other courses and future careers. Students will learn how to write clear and effective expository and persuasive prose with emphasis on organization, clarity, and coherence. Students will learn the basics of research with a focus on accessing and analyzing information to judge the trustworthiness of the source and information. Students will work with sentence structure and paragraph structure while also focusing on multi-paragraph essays and the process of creating through drafts. Types of writing may include the following: process writing, review, problem/solution, research papers, and emails. Students will read published examples of writing and other nonfiction to examine how others craft their writing. Emphasis will be on research as a writer.

**This course satisfies .5 of the ISBE 2-year graduation requirement for “Intensive Writing”.*

HONORS ENGLISH 1

EN900

Year: 9

Credit: .5 or 1

This course focuses on both literature and composition. Students will develop communication and literary skills through reading, viewing, and listening to many forms of literature. Students will learn different ways to read and interpret literature. Students will use literary interpretations, analysis, and comparison to respond to works of literature – fiction and nonfiction. Students will use the writing process to write paragraphs for various purposes, to improve sentence structure and style, and to write a variety of multi-paragraph essays. Most essays are in response to literature. This course offers more complex literature and faster pace than English 1.

This course is a semester on years when it runs along with Writing 1 or year-long in years that it is the sole 9th grade English option.

**Course has +.5 GPA weight for Honors*

**This course satisfies .5 or 1 of the ISBE 2-year graduation requirement for “Intensive Writing”.*

HONORS WRITING 1

EN902

Year: 9

Credit: .5

This composition course will use a writing workshop model to teach students how to write to be successful in their other courses and future careers. Students will learn how to write clear and effective expository and persuasive prose with emphasis on organization, clarity, and coherence. Students will learn the basics of research with a focus on accessing and analyzing information to judge the trustworthiness of the source and information. Students will work with sentence structure and paragraph structure while also focusing on multi-paragraph essays and the process of creating through drafts. Types of writing may include the following: process writing, review, problem/solution, research papers, and emails. Students will read published examples of writing and other nonfiction to examine how others craft their writing. Emphasis will be on research and reading as a writer.

*The course has +.5 GPA weight for Honors

**This course satisfies .5 of the ISBE 2-year graduation requirement for "Intensive Writing".*

LITERACY & COMPOSITION 1

EN050

Year: 9

Credit: 1

Literacy & Composition 1 builds the foundational writing, reading, and speaking skills that are needed to be successful in future Argo courses, including future English classes. Literacy and Composition addresses the same skills as the Writing 1 and English 1 curriculum using high-interest young adult fiction and nonfiction literature which meets the standards of department-reviewed text complexity, and which is at a reading level appropriate for the demonstrated reading level of student placed in this class. This course is co-taught and uses differentiation to support all students.

**This course satisfies 1 of the ISBE 2-year graduation requirement for "Intensive Writing."*

Prerequisite: Placement is made by Humanities Division Chair or Director of ESS

Grade 10

Course Descriptions:

ENGLISH 2

EN310

Year: 10

Credit: 1

This course fulfills a graduation requirement for English. It is designed as the core course for second year students. This course builds on the reading and writing skills introduced in English I. A heavy emphasis will be placed on the ability to think, speak, and write persuasively.

**This course satisfies 1 of the ISBE 2-year graduation requirement for "Intensive Writing".*

HONORS ENGLISH 2

EN910

Year: 10

Credit: 1

This course fulfills a graduation requirement for English. It is designed for highly motivated students who have demonstrated the ability to handle additional rigor in the curriculum. Students in honors English courses will be responsible for additional readings and writing assignments beyond those required in college preparatory courses. This will include a summer reading assignment.

*Course has +.5 GPA weight for Honors

**This course satisfies 1 of the ISBE 2-year graduation requirement for "Intensive Writing".*

Prerequisite: Humanities Division Chair approval

LITERACY AND COMPOSITION 2

EN180

Years: 10

Credit: 1

Literacy and Composition 2 is designed to meet the standards of English 2 while using high-interest young adult fiction and nonfiction literature which meets the standards of department reviewed text complexity and which is at a reading level appropriate for the demonstrated reading level of students placed in this class. Instruction will incorporate data driven reading instruction and will include a great deal of direct reading skill instruction and practice.

**This course satisfies 1 of the ISBE 2-year graduation requirement for "Intensive Writing".*

Prerequisite: Placement is made by Humanities Division Chair or Director of ESS

Grade 11

Course Descriptions:

AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION

EN950

Year: 11

Credit: 1

Students in this introductory college-level course read and carefully analyze a broad and challenging range of nonfiction prose selections, deepening their awareness of rhetoric and how language works. Through close reading and frequent writing, students develop their ability to work with language and text with a greater awareness of purpose and strategy, while strengthening their own composing abilities. Course readings feature expository, analytical, personal, and argumentative texts from a variety of authors and historical contexts. Students examine and work with essays, letters, speeches, images, and imaginative literature. Summer reading and writing are required. Students prepare for the AP English Language and Composition Exam and may be granted advanced placement, college credit, or both as a result of satisfactory performance.

*Course has +1.0 GPA weight for AP

**This course satisfies 1 of the ISBE 2-year graduation requirement for "Intensive Writing".*

Prerequisite: Humanities Division Chair approval

ENGLISH 3

EN320

Year: 11

Credit: 1

This course fulfills a graduation requirement for English. It is designed as the core course for third year students. The English 6 curriculum focuses on the analysis of complex texts, the acquisition of academic vocabulary, and academic writing, including the completion of a major research paper.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of English 1 and English 2

HONORS ENGLISH 3

EN920

Year: 11

Credit: 1

This course fulfills a graduation requirement for English. It is designed for highly motivated students who have demonstrated the ability to handle additional rigor in the curriculum. Students in honors English courses will be responsible for additional readings and writing assignments beyond those required in college preparatory courses. This course will include a summer reading assignment.

*Course has +.5 GPA weight for Honors

Prerequisite: Humanities Division Chair approval

RESEARCH AND COMMUNICATION

EN020

Year: 11, 12

Credit: 1

Research and Communication is a project-based English course in which students will have the opportunity, space, and resources to self-design projects that apply to their larger life goals (college major, trades, entrepreneurship, etc.) This course focuses on providing students a leadership role in their own learning. Teachers will share nonfiction literature (article, peer-reviewed studies, excerpts from books, etc.) that apply directly and indirectly to the projects students self-design. In this, students learn to research, to comprehend challenging grade-exceeding texts, to compose practical, real-world writing skills, and to recapture a passion for learning. Culminating projects will ask the students to effectively communicate with professionals and experts in and out of the classroom and school confines. Students who take this course will be given experience in emailing, speaking, and presenting to several audiences through these projects as a means of preparing them for their future careers. All students enrolled in this course will complete a research paper that meets the same learning standards as that completed during English 3.

**This course satisfies 1 of the ISBE 2-year graduation requirement for "Intensive Writing".*

Prerequisite: Humanities Division Chair approval

Grade 12

Course Descriptions:

AFRICAN-AMERICAN LITERATURE

EN556

Year: 12

Credit: .5 (semester)

This course fulfills an English requirement as part of the senior choice selection. Students will read and carefully analyze stories, poetry, and essays of African-American writers from the eighteenth century through the Harlem Renaissance to present times, including well known authors like Frederick Douglass, Zora Neal Hurston, Langston Hughes, Martin Luther King Jr., Toni Morrison, and others. Students will analyze major themes, such as alienation, identity, racism, rebellion, revolt, and escape. Writing will include personal narrative (college essay), analysis, argumentative, and research.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of 3 English credits and Humanities Division Chair approval

AP ENGLISH LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

EN990

Year: 12

Credit: 1 (year-long)

This course is designed for seniors who want to challenge themselves with college-level coursework. Students in AP English Language and Composition are highly encouraged to enroll in this class. Topics of study include epic and lyric poetry, traditional and contemporary fiction, and drama. Essay writing focuses on literary analysis using published critical interpretations. Extended research projects involve independent reading coupled with oral presentations. Students will prepare for the AP English Literature and Composition Exam (offered in the spring of each year).

*Course has +1.0 GPA for AP course

Prerequisite: Humanities Division Chair approval

CREATIVE WRITING

EN381/382

Year: 12

Credit: .5 (semester)

This course fulfills an English requirement as part of the senior choice selection. Creative Writing is intended for the advanced writer who has already mastered basic writing skills. Students in this class will read about the creative writing processes of accomplished writers and evaluate those processes for application in their own writing. Students will use a study of literary forms to create their own original essays, works of narrative fiction and non-fiction, poetry, and more. Writing will include personal narrative (college essay), analysis, argumentative, and research.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of 3 English credits or Humanities Division Chair approval

Grade 12 – Cont'd

CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE

EN353

Year: 12

Credit: .5 (semester)

This course fulfills an English requirement as part of the senior choice selection. This course will study critically acclaimed, popular, and award-winning contemporary literature of various genres (for example, realistic fiction, mystery fiction, and memoir). Literature will be examined using a variety of literary lenses to consider how the text is relevant in society and how it is reflective of popular culture. Students will be able to apply complex literary lenses to text, identify and apply scholarship appropriate for text analysis, and create literary analyses of texts incorporating the major course themes and contexts. Writing will include personal narrative (college essay), analysis, argumentative, and research.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of 3 English credits or Humanities Division Chair approval

DRAMA ANALYSIS

EN312

Year: 12

Credit: .5 (semester)

This course fulfills an English requirement as part of the senior choice selection. It is designed to focus extensively on the analysis of plays and develop an appreciation for the beauty of drama. Students will learn a structured approach to analyzing a variety of plays ranging from classical to contemporary theatre. Students will read theatrical literature, analyze plays using literary lenses and literary elements, identify common themes and motifs, determine, and understand authors' purpose, write literary analysis essays, and engage in scholarly class discussions. Writing will include personal narrative (college essay), analysis, argumentative, and research.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of 3 English credits or Humanities Division Chair approval

DUAL CREDIT COLLEGE WRITING

EN801

Year: 12

Credit: .5 (semester)

This course is a college dual credit course through Indiana University. The course is intended for college-bound seniors ready to challenge themselves with college coursework. The focus is on the reading, writing, and critical thinking skills required in college. Emphasis is on written assignments that require synthesis, analysis, and arguments based on sources.

Pre-requisites: 2.7 overall GPA. Completion of this course with a C or higher will qualify for dual credit at Indiana University. (English W131 Reading, Writing, and Inquiry 1)

DUAL CREDIT PUBLIC SPEAKING

EN851

Year: 12

Credit: .5 (semester)

This course is a college dual credit course through Indiana University. The course is intended for college-bound seniors ready to challenge themselves with college coursework. Upon completion of this course, students will discover the power of speech to motivate, clarify, inspire, speak truth to power, expose fallacies and presumptions, and work through problems collectively. Students will explore the close relationship of logic, ethics, and emotion, and come to understand speech's role in cultivating our capacity for deliberative wisdom, our membership in community, and our humanity.

*This course has +.5 GPA weight for Honors

**This course satisfies 1 of the ISBE 2-year graduation requirement for "Intensive Writing".*

Pre-requisites: 2.7 overall GPA. Completion of this course with a C or higher will qualify for dual credit at Indiana University (SPCH S121 Public Speaking).

FILM ANALYSIS

EN301

Year: 12

Credit: .5 (semester)

This course fulfills an English requirement as part of the senior choice selection. It is designed to introduce students to the history of filmmaking and acquaint students with a variety of film genres. The threefold purpose of the class will allow students to become familiar with the interpretive language of film, cultivate the reading of film as text, and create critical arguments regarding the analysis of those texts. Writing will include personal narrative (college essay), analysis, argumentative, and research.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of 3 English credits or Humanities Division Chair approval

GRAPHIC NOVELS

EN354

Year: 12

Credit: .5 (semester)

This course fulfills an English requirement as part of the senior choice selection. This course introduces students to the literary genre of graphic novels. It focuses on the reading, interpretation, and analysis of graphic novels as a skillset separate from (though obviously related to) traditional text based literary analysis. Using a variety of fiction and nonfiction graphic novels, students investigate the interplay of visual and textual information in a process that will foster skills that will not only help them in this class but will also be useful throughout their academic careers. Writing will include personal narrative (college essay), analysis, argumentative, and research.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of 3 English credits or Humanities Division Chair approval

LATIN-AMERICAN LITERATURE

EN355

Year: 12

Credit: .5 (semester)

This course fulfills an English requirement as part of the senior choice selection. Students in this course will read and carefully analyze stories, poetry, and essays of Latino writers, including well-known authors like Sandra Cisneros, Julia Alvarez, Isabel Allende, Gary Soto, Luis Alberto Urrea, Rudolfo Anaya, and others. Students will analyze major themes, such as alienation, identity, and racism. They will evaluate these works for their literary merit, discover connections about these stories, and relate them to their own experiences. The course will also offer entree into various literary lenses such as archetypal, psychoanalytical, and critical through an approachable set of texts. As in any English course, students will be expected to write frequently. Writing will include personal responses and reflection, personal narrative, and literary analysis, as well as the senior college writing unit (first semester),

Prerequisite: Successful completion of 3 English credits or Humanities Division Chair approval

Grade 12 – Cont'd

PRE-COLLEGE WRITING

EN200

Year: 12

Credit: 1 (year-long)

This course is intended for students serious about attending college but scoring below a 440 on the PSAT 10 NMSQT. Students earning an A or B in the course are guaranteed placement in COM 101 at MVCC if they attend MVCC in the fall following graduation from Argo. The course will fine-tune students' skills in the areas of reading and writing. Specifically, students will study critical reading strategies, paragraph writing strategies, essay development, and general writing mechanics. Writing will include personal narrative (college essay), analysis, argumentative, and research.

**This course satisfies 1 of the ISBE 2-year graduation requirement for "intensive Writing".*

Prerequisite: Humanities Division Chair approval

WORLD LITERATURE

EN350

Year: 12

Credit: .5 (semester)

This course fulfills an English requirement as part of the senior choice selection. This course will study critically acclaimed, classical, and internationally relevant texts from around the world. Literature will be examined using a variety of literary lenses to consider how the texts reflect the time and culture of their origin as well as how they influence our world today. Students will be able to apply complex literary lenses to text, identify and apply scholarship appropriate for text analysis, and create literary analyses of texts incorporating major course themes and contexts. Writing will include personal narrative (college essay), analysis, argumentative, and research.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of 3 English credits or Humanities Division Chair approval

English Electives

Course Descriptions:

ADVANCED THEATRE ARTS

EN660

EN660H - Honors

Year: 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

This course does not fulfill an English requirement but earns elective credit or fine arts credit. It is designed for those students who have successfully completed Theatre Arts and wish to continue their studies in this area. Students in this class will demonstrate proper acting techniques, the ability to critique plays and skits, diverse public speaking skills, and an understanding of public performance. In addition, students will be able to work stage lights, build sets, apply make-up, and discuss performance production issues.

Prerequisite: Theatre Arts and Humanities Division Chair approval required

HONORS THEATRE ARTS

EN360 (H)

Year: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: .5

This course does not fulfill an English requirement but does earn a Fine Arts credit or elective credit. It is designed as an introduction to theater and acting. After school participation is highly suggested. By the end of the course, students will be able to demonstrate proper acting techniques, the ability to critique skits and plays, understand basic stage design, and increase public speaking skills.

(Stacked course)

HONORS ADVANCED THEATRE

EN600 (H)

Year: 10, 11, 12

Credit: .5

This course does not fulfill an English requirement but earns elective credit or Fine Arts credit. It is designed for those students who have successfully completed Theatre Arts and wish to continue their studies in this area. Students in this class will demonstrate proper acting techniques, the ability to critique plays and skits, diverse public speaking skills, and an understanding of public performance. In addition, students will be able to work stage light, build sets, apply makeup, and discuss performance production issues.

JOURNALISM

EN371

Year: 10, 11, 12

Credit: .5

This course teaches practical writing for publication. The focus of the course is on nonfiction writing for print and digital publication. Students will learn how to report objectively, conduct interviews, compose podcasts, and more. Different genres of writing will be covered, such as commentary, reviews, humor writing, interviews, sports writing, and more. The course will also cover writing and producing podcasts. The students will work with the teacher to get published. The course will also study careers in digital writing.

****This course does not fulfill an English requirement but does earn elective credit.***

PUBLIC SPEAKING

EN411

Year: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: .5

This one semester course does not fulfill an English requirement but earns elective credit. This course develops speaking skills and requires students to make a number of formal presentations. Students select individualized goals for improving their own communication weaknesses and present competitive forensics speeches. Students will read, listen, and watch a variety of speeches for the purposes of doing rhetorical analysis. Students will learn and engage in small group communication and debate. Students will engage in research for the purpose of composing speeches.

THEATRE ARTS

EN360

EN360H – Honors

Year: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

This course does not fulfill an English requirement but does earn a fine arts credit or elective credit. It is designed as an introduction to theater and acting. After school participation is highly suggested. By the end of this course, students will be able to demonstrate proper acting techniques, the ability to critique skits and plays, an understanding of basic stage design, and increased public speaking skills.