ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Course Number	Course Name	Possible Grade Level 9	10	11	12	Credit	Dual-Enrollment	Weighted Grade
030111	English 1	■				1.0		
030206	Honors English 1	■				1.0		■
030211	English 2		■			1.0		
030201	Honors English 2		■			1.0		■
030311	English 3			■		1.0		
030600	AP English Language & Composition			■		1.0		■
030411	English 4				■	1.0		
030401	Honors English 4/College Composition				■	1.0	■	■
030610	AP English Literature & Composition				■	1.0		■
030325	Film as Literature				■	0.5		
030302	Creative Writing		■	■	■	0.5		
030175	Journalism/Mass Communications		■	■	■	0.5		
030115	Speech	■	■	■	■	0.5		
030166	Honors Forensics - Competitive	■	■	■	■	0.5		■
030145	Forensics Non-Competitive	■	■	■	■	0.5		

ENGLISH 1

Credit 1 Grade 9

Course #: 030111
*Students should expect to have a summer reading/writing assignment.

English 1 introduces students to the basic genres: short story, poetry, novel, non-fiction, and drama. The course emphasizes and teaches grammar in the context of writing and includes a concentrated grammar unit based on drills, repetition, and use. Students direct their writing focus on the mastery of the basic essay format. In addition to writing multiple essays, students study a minimum of three major works during the year and begin their programmed study of vocabulary.

HONORS ENGLISH 1 H

Credit: 1 Grade 9

Course #: 030206
*Students should expect to have a summer reading/writing assignment.

Prerequisite: Placement Exam Score Students

Honors English 1 introduces students to the basic genres: short story, poetry, novel, non-fiction, and drama. Students enrolling in Honors English 1 study a minimum of five major works during the year, begin their programmed study of vocabulary, direct their writing focus on the essay format and write multiple essays, and practice analytical reading and writing skills. Honors English 1 emphasizes and teaches grammar in the context of writing and includes a concentrated grammar unit.

ENGLISH 2

Credit: 1 Grade 10

Course #: 030211
*Students should expect to have a summer reading/writing assignment.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of English 1.

English 2 is a survey course, focusing on the elements that have built literature throughout time and sampling classic literature such as mythology, Greek tragedy, and epic poetry. English 2 also strengthens students' writing; students will compose a minimum of five multi-paragraph writings, both formal and informal, and will create a portfolio to show the progression of their writing skills. The course curriculum also includes a research project and the continuation of vocabulary and grammar / structure study.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

HONORS ENGLISH 2 H

Credit: 1 Grade 10

Course #: 030201
*Students should expect to have a summer reading/writing assignment.

Prerequisite: At least 86% (without the extra 5 points) in Honors English 1 or at least 95% in English 1.

Honors English 2 focuses on the elements that have built literature throughout time, and samples classic literature such as mythology, Greek tragedy, and epic poetry. Students taking Honors English 2 analyze a number of literary selections, including four major works, and focus on critical thinking and analysis of theme, symbolism, and allegory. Students enrolling in Honors English 2 are expected to read quickly and thoroughly, have strong inference skills, and make subtle connections. Honors English 2 also strengthens students' writing. Students will compose a minimum of eight multi-paragraph writings, both formal and informal, that include autonomous thinking, literary analysis, and critical persuasion. The course curriculum also includes a research project, introduction to Advanced Placement prep, and the continuation of vocabulary and grammar / structure study.

ENGLISH 3

Credit: 1 Grade 11

Course #: 030311
*Students should expect to have a summer reading/writing assignment.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of English 2.

English 3 holds students accountable for those literary elements and rules of mechanics previously taught, while adding elements of style through the use of rhetorical devices. Additionally, students will increase their knowledge and understanding of American authors by reading and analyzing essays, plays, novels, and other genres. Students compose a number of multi-paragraph writings -- informal and formal, both in-class and out-of-class -- over the course of the year. Students base formal essays, including a required research paper, on their readings from Colonial to contemporary American literature. Students study three major works during the year and continue the study of vocabulary, grammar, and structure.

AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION* H

Credit: 1 Grade 11

Course #: 030600
*Students should expect to have a summer reading/writing assignment.

Prerequisite: At least 86% (without the extra 5 points) in Honors English 2 or at least 95% in English 2.

Students enrolling in AP English Language and Composition are expected to be proficient in writing and supporting arguments and must be able to recognize and analyze the use of literary devices studied in English 2. This course will incorporate the study of style, both with reading and writing assignments, and will develop students' ability to argue, persuade, and synthesize sources in their writings. Students enrolling in AP English Language are also expected to read quickly and thoroughly, have strong inference skills, and make subtle connections. The course serves as a survey of American Literature, from the Colonial to the contemporary, and samples all genres. Literature study emphasizes analysis, with students using newly-introduced analytical techniques as well as incorporating those used in earlier courses. Students will study two major works of literature each semester in addition to completing two outside reading assignments. AP English Language and Composition prepares students for the English Language and Composition Advanced Placement Exam.

**AP Exam Required*

ENGLISH 4

Credit: 1 Grade 12

Course #: 030411
*Students should expect to have a summer reading/writing assignment.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of English 3.

English 4 increases students' knowledge and understanding of British authors and their writings, from Beowulf to contemporary classics. Students will study four major works in class and complete six out-of-class reading assignments. They also will write multiple essays during the year, including a college, scholarship, or career essay and two research papers. While building on prior writing and research skills, the research units will help students become proficient in using online databases, incorporating ideas from outside sources, providing parenthetic citations, synthesizing sources, and building an annotated bibliography. Students will continue their programmed study of vocabulary and the study of grammar / structure in the context of writing.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

HONORS ENGLISH 4/ COLLEGE COMP H,CC

Credit: 1 (College credit available) Grade 12

Course #: 030401 JCCC ENGL 121 and/or 122
*Students should expect to have a summer reading/writing assignment.

Prerequisite: At least 86% (without the extra 5 points) in AP English Language or at least 95% in English 3.

Course Fee: Current tuition at JCCC is assessed if college credit is desired.

Honors English 4/College Comp is a chronological survey of English literature with an in-depth study of major works by English authors. Students read and study at least two major works each semester. Composition familiarizes the students with both the theory and process of developing effective writing skills. Students complete multiple essays, including two fully developed research papers, during the year. Students continue their study of vocabulary and grammar in the context of their writing.

NOTE: Students may earn college credit for the Honors English 4/College Comp course through Johnson County Community College. They must, however, enroll and pay the current rate per credit hour to JCCC.

AP ENGLISH LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION H

Credit: 1 Grade 12

Course #: 030610
*Students should expect to have a summer reading/writing assignment.

Prerequisite: None. Students should be very strong readers and writers.

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.

College credit may be earned for students who choose to take the AP test in May.

FILM AS LITERATURE KR

Credit ½ Grade 12

Course #: 030325
*Students should expect to have a summer reading/writing assignment.

Prerequisite: None.

This elective course focuses on studying film as a literary form. The study involves viewing various films from five themed units, then discussing, interpreting, and writing responses to those films. Film as Literature covers aspects of American cinema from the silent film era to twenty-first century movies. Students who take this course will write essays and complete several unit projects.

CREATIVE WRITING (SUSPENSE FICTION)

Credit: ½ Grades 10-12

Course #: 030302

Prerequisite: English 1

Creative Writing in Suspense Fiction introduces students to creative writing using suspense fiction in novels, short stories, and poetry. The course includes: an introduction to the elements of suspense, writing using standard plot in literature, analyzing and critiquing different works of fiction, discussion groups, and stylistic writing techniques that encourage a process approach with group editing sessions. Students will submit their unpublished, original works to at least two contests to showcase the writing talent Saint Thomas Aquinas students possess.

JOURNALISM/ MASS COMMUNICATIONS

Credit: ½ Grades 10-12

Course #: 030175

Prerequisite: at least an 80% in English I

In this elective, students will concentrate on gathering, reporting, and editing news. To help facilitate the learning process, students will examine the work of professional journalists and analyze the way their work shapes an audience's understanding and experience of the world. Students will also learn the various forms of journalism and how to apply these forms to different media formats. Further areas of study include mass media law, ethics, and history. Finally, students will build and sharpen their writing skills.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

SPEECH

Credit: ½ Grades 9-12
Course #: 030115
Prerequisite: None

The ability to communicate depends on one's ability to verbalize; thus, by preparing and delivering basic speeches, students acquire speech awareness, technique, and confidence. This course introduces the basics of speech communication through preparation, organization, imagination, and presentation. This class or a designated equivalent is required for graduation.

NOTE: Speech is also available in summer school.

HONORS FORENSICS - COMPETITIVE

Credit: ½ Semester 2 only Grades 9-12
Course #: 030166
Prerequisite: None

Forensics involves the creation of student acting and/or speaking performances for contest performance. Some memorization will be required. The course requirements include an expectation that students will contract to attend several inter-school speech competitions, which are held primarily on Saturdays. The schedule is flexible, but students without at least two free weekends from early February to mid-April should not enroll. This class may be repeated and students may earn a varsity letter in this activity.

NOTE: Honors Competitive Forensics fulfills the speech requirement for graduation, but students and their families should anticipate a higher level of rigor and expectations relative to the standard speech class.

FORENSICS - NON-COMPETITIVE

Credit: ½ each semester Grades 9-12
Course #: 030145

This beginning course is designed for students interested in exploring forensics during the school day. Students will be instructed in all facets of individual forensics events including oral interpretation, humorous/dramatic solo acting, informative speaking, persuasive speaking, impromptu speaking, and duet acting. This course will serve as a general introduction to competitive speaking and acting.

NOTE: Forensics non-competitive fulfills the speech requirement for graduation.