

ENGLISH COURSES

The English Department provides a variety of course offerings in reading, writing, and speaking as well as in the study of literature, theater and media. Students must take three trimester credits each year in English courses.

Grade 9: The goals of freshman English are to review and strengthen the five language skills of reading, writing, speaking, listening, and thinking. Additionally, information literacy and critical evaluation of resources have been integrated into 9th grade. These establish the foundation for all subsequent English courses.

The 9th grade students must successfully complete three trimesters of English classes in either *English 9 or Honors English 9*.

To move into the Honors 10 courses from English 9, it is strongly recommended that the student earn all As in English 9 A, B and C. Students in Honors 9 wishing to take Honors 10 should maintain at least a B- average in Honors 9 A, B and C.

Grade 10: A student must take all three of the required courses for his or her sophomore year; however, a student may choose to take extra English electives as well.

English 10: Insights, English 10: Perspectives, Speech 10

OR

Honors English 10: Insights, Honors English 10: Perspectives, Speech 10 Honors

Grade 11:

A student must take all three of the required courses for his or her junior year. Students may also choose to take elective classes in addition to the required courses.

English 11A, English 11B, and English 11C (3 credits)

OR

AP English Language A, B and C (3 credits)

Grade 12:

Three English credits are required. Seniors may choose three courses from the list of electives, unless they enroll in AP English Literature A, B, C, or CIS University Writing and CIS Literature.

List of Elective English Courses

<i>Writing Electives:</i>	Writing for College (11-12) Creative Writing (10-12)
<i>Literature Electives:</i>	Mythology (10-12) Reading Seminar (10-12) Science Fiction/Fantasy Literature (10-12) Multicultural Literature and Contemporary Issues (11-12)
<i>Media Electives:</i>	Film Study (11-12)
<i>Speech Electives:</i>	CIS: Public Speaking (11-12)

REQUIRED COURSES FOR STUDENTS IN GRADE 9

0304 <u>English 9A</u>	Grade 9
0305 <u>English 9B</u>	
0306 <u>English 9C</u>	

English 9 creates the foundation upon which future high school reading, writing, and speaking learning will be built. The course will include experiences in both writing and reading workshops. Students will engage in the writing process to build and practice strong composition skills in mechanics and organization, increase their command of language and vocabulary, develop several multi-paragraph essays in a variety of modes, and learn how to research. Students will also increase their capacity to critically comprehend multiple texts in both fiction and nonfiction through various reading workshops. In addition, students will become more effective communicators by developing skills in both speaking and listening. Note: This is a year-long course, and students must register for all three: A, B and C.

0307 <u>English 9A</u> - Honors	Grade 9
0308 <u>English 9B</u> - Honors	
0309 <u>English 9C</u> - Honors	

The Honors English 9 curriculum is designed to prepare students for continual language arts scholarship in honors and AP English courses throughout the high school career. The course moves at a quicker pace and digs more deeply into literary study of texts and writing techniques than the English 9 course. Under specific thematic units of inquiry, students will study literary techniques and devices and explore their practical applications. They will study novels, choice texts, conduct research, and take on personal and academic writing tasks. Note: This is a year-long course, and students must register for all three: A, B, and C.

0310 <u>Academic Literacy A</u>	Grade 9
0311 <u>Academic Literacy B</u>	
0312 <u>Academic Literacy C</u>	

This course is not an English credit. This course is in addition to the required English classes. This class is for freshmen students who have been identified as needing reading intervention by the building literacy coordinator. The focus will be on intensifying vocabulary and accelerating reading comprehension via individual coaching. While striving to raise their reading level, students will discover new ways to read difficult texts. Students will read a variety of fiction and non-fiction texts, self selected and assigned. NOTE: For DI and DII Athletes, this course is not an NCAA core academic course.

REQUIRED COURSES FOR STUDENTS IN GRADE 100327 English 10: Insights

Grade 10

Prerequisite: None

In this course students will examine a variety of both fiction and non-fiction texts that explore the themes of responsibility and resistance. *Insights* will include reading pieces by authors who speak to both historical and modern concerns and societal struggles, and then analyzing the rhetorical strategies used to make their arguments. Students will compare and contrast texts through classroom discussions and written responses. Students will also write an argument essay, based on their own insights, that examines a current societal issue. Successful completion of this course or 0328 is a school district graduation requirement.

0328 Honors English 10: Insights

Grade 10

Prerequisite: See italics in course description

This course covers much of the same content as the on-level course, but with a sharper focus on analysis and writing. Students should be strong readers and writers who are ready for more challenging assignments. Many of the skills practiced in this course will prepare students for A.P. and C.I.S. courses in their junior and senior years.

0332 English 10: Perspectives

Grade 10

Prerequisite: None

Students will examine a variety of both fiction and nonfiction texts that explore the themes of perspective and identity. *Perspectives* will include reading texts by authors who speak from multiple perspectives and identities, focusing on the power of literature to create empathy and understanding across experiences. This course will also explore the purposes of storytelling and explore the relationship between truth and fiction. Students will engage in structured, collaborative discussions throughout the course, and the writing will include a multi-draft work of narrative fiction, literary analysis, and informal, exploratory responses. Successful completion of this course or 0333 is a school district graduation requirement.

0333 Honors English 10: Perspectives

Grade 10

Prerequisite: See italics in course description

This course covers much of the same content as the on-level, but with a sharper focus on analysis and writing and a more challenging reading load. Students should be strong readers and writers who are ready for more challenging assignments and a greater level of self-direction. Many of the skills practiced in this course will prepare students for A.P. and C.I.S. courses in their junior and senior years. Successful completion of this course or 0332 is a school district graduation requirement.

0337 Speech 10

Grades 10

The purpose of speech is to equip students with the basic skills of public address. In this course, we will focus on teaching strategies for how to manage discomfort with public speaking, how to engage an audience through verbal and nonverbal communication, and how to organize writing in a manner that engrosses the attention of listeners. The students will be asked to entertain, inform, and persuade in their speeches at different times throughout the trimester. Depending on the genre of speech, students will be given the specific tools they need to be successful orators. Successful completion of this course fulfills the speech requirement for graduation.

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0338 Speech 10 Honors

Grades 10

Prerequisite:

Honors Speech navigates the same expectations/curriculum as on-level speech (the equipment of students with the skills of effective public address). More attention is given to the development of nuanced presentation and communication skills rather than the basic fundamentals of public speaking. Students should be motivated and willing to improve as a public speaker. Successful completion of this course fulfills the speech requirement for graduation.

REQUIRED COURSES FOR STUDENTS IN GRADE 11

0364 English 11A

Grades: 11

This course continues to build on reading and writing skills developed in earlier grades; however, it focuses much more closely on concepts related to authorial purpose (what the writer is trying to accomplish) and rhetorical choices (how the writer uses language to achieve their purpose). Students will practice the necessary skills with short fiction and then apply those skills to the reading of novels in a small group format. Over the course of the trimester, students will write extensively in an analytical format, dissecting the text, composing both paragraphs and complete essays in formal written English.

0365 English 11B

Grade: 11

In this course, students will apply their understanding of authorial purpose and rhetorical choices to creative nonfiction texts. They will examine the construction of memoir and essay writing. Students will practice the necessary skills with magazine and newspaper articles and then apply those skills to the reading of memoirs in a small group format. Over the course of the trimester, students will write extensively in both analytical and creative formats, both dissecting the text and creating their own texts, composing various writing tasks in formal written English.

0366 English 11C

Grade: 11

The purpose of this course is the instruction of concepts related to investigative journalism and research-based writing. Students will learn about the norms and processes of investigative journalism. They will also develop their own research skills and apply those skills to the construction of both informational and argumentative texts. Students will practice the necessary skills with award-winning journalism and then apply those skills to the reading of book-length investigations in a small group format. Over the course of the trimester, students will write extensively in various formats—for example, collecting and assessing research, structuring arguments, and employing evidence—composing various writing tasks in formal written English.

OR

0357 Advanced Placement[®] Language A

Grade: 11

0358 Advanced Placement[®] Language B

0359 Advanced Placement[®] Language C

This year-long Advanced Placement course in English Language and Composition engages students in becoming skilled readers and writers of nonfiction texts for a variety of purposes. Students can expect to encounter challenging texts from a variety of periods, disciplines, and rhetorical contexts. Students will compose both in-class impromptu and multi-draft revised essays for summative grades. Essays include the following genres: personal creative nonfiction, rhetorical analysis, research/synthesis, philosophical argumentation, and reflective (i.e. college application essay). In addition, students in the course will prepare for the AP Exam in the spring. This course expects independence and dedication on par with a 1st year college writing course.

In addition to the required courses, 11th grade students may take the following courses as electives: Reading Seminar, Mythology, Science Fiction/Fantasy Literature, Creative Writing, Writing for College, Multicultural Literature, CIS Public Speaking, and Film Study. Course descriptions appear at the end of the English section of the Course Registration Guide.

REQUIRED COURSES FOR STUDENTS IN GRADE 12

Students in grade 12 have three options:

- They may choose to take three trimesters of AP Literature.
- They may choose to take CIS: University Writing and CIS: Literature. (3 trimesters)
- They may choose to take three elective courses.

OPTION ONE: AP Literature

0376 Advanced Placement Literature A

Grade 12

0377 Advanced Placement Literature B

Prerequisite: AP Language A, B and C strongly recommended

0378 Advanced Placement Literature C

This is a year-long course designed to mirror an introductory college-level literary analysis course. Students will study literature through close reading and critical analysis to deepen their understanding of how writers use language to create meaning and entertainment. Discussion and analysis will focus on a work's style, structure, themes, and use of literary devices. The course also prepares students for the Advanced Placement Exam in Literature.

OPTION TWO: CIS

0380 College-in-the Schools: Introduction to Literature

Grade 12

Prerequisite: AP: Language and Composition

This is a special version of a University of Minnesota course, open to exceptional, highly motivated seniors who are in the top 25% of their class and can meet additional academic standards. The essence of this course is critical reading, writing, and discussion of selected modern novels, poems, and short stories. The course is designed around 20th and 21st Century fiction that provides insight into less represented cultures, such as Latino, African American and Native American. The texts are multicultural and may contain mature themes and images. **STUDENTS MAY EARN 4 CREDITS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA.** Active participation in discussion is essential for success in this course. **NOTE: Students must also register for 0381 and 0382.**

0381 College-in-the Schools: University Writing

Grade: 12

Prerequisite: AP: Language and Composition

University Writing is a four-credit college course offered through the University of Minnesota's College in the Schools Program. Students with strong writing skills and are ideally in the top 20% of their class, may earn these credits, thereby fulfilling a college freshman composition requirement. The curriculum, rules, and expectations of the University of Minnesota govern the course. The focus of this course is on the process of writing and strategies for inventing, focusing, drafting, conferencing, revising and editing. Active participation in the writing community of this class is essential. Students will compose the following essays in this course: trend analysis (research-synthesis), critical reviews, cultural ethnography (primary observational research of a cultural group), and personal narrative.

CIS: University Writing is a SEMESTER course and is recommended to be taken in conjunction with CIS: Intro to Literature. **NOTE: Students must also register for 0380 and 0382.**

0382 College-in-the Schools: Lit/Writing

Grade: 12

Prerequisite: AP: Language and Compositions AND students Must have achieved an A- or better in each of their high school English classes.

See 0380 CIS : Literature and 0381: CIS Writing for complete SEMESTER course description.

OPTION THREE: ELECTIVE COURSES0384 Writing for College

Grades 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

This course focuses on the modes of writing required in post-secondary settings such as research-based synthesis and comparison-contrast. Using models, examples, and real-life writing tasks, students should emerge feeling more confident in their ability to write succinct and concise prose and revise for clarity. Focus will be on discussion in class and in writing, research, argumentation, succinct presentation of ideas, and employing composition to address problems or societal issues.

0360 Creative Writing

Grades 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

What makes a story great? How do we harness creativity? Forms of writing that might be investigated include the short story, poetry, writing for children, and playwriting, with a focus on developing character, dialogue, voice, style and description. Writers will be writing daily, peer editing weekly, and completing a comprehensive portfolio focused on growth and taking risks.

0363 Mythology

Grades 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

Students will explore the nature and development of myths. Students will study Greek mythology, as well as some mythology from other cultures. Reading will include myths of gods and heroes, a study of the hero's journey in literature and the life and the legend of King Arthur. Students will respond to these readings through writing, storytelling and presenting projects.

0345 Reading Seminar*

Grades 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

The goals for students in this course are success in reading and literature appreciation through self-selected reading materials. Reading Seminar is not a speed-reading course. Rather, the emphasis is on applying reading strategies to improve comprehension in academic and recreational texts. Developmental reading strategies will be emphasized, and there is ample opportunity for classroom reading. Students will complete 60 hours of independent reading and must be able to work independently toward that goal. *NOTE: For DI and DII athletes, this course is not an NCAA core academic course.

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0385 Science Fiction/Fantasy Literature

Grades 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

What makes us human? How do we imagine the future? What is a heroic life? This course is designed for the student who loves reading science fiction and fantasy literature. We'll explore both classic and contemporary texts in the genres, investigating what our stories of speculation say about our understanding of reality. Students will also read independent texts in the science fiction, fantasy, or supernatural genres.

0371 Film Study*

Grades 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

In this course students will refine their literacy through the study of film and its history, genres, cinematic techniques, and technologies. Students will analyze feature-length films ranging from the early, silent-film era to today. Depending on the instructor, possible films might include the following: Chaplin's *The Gold Rush*, Hitchcock's *Psycho*, *Double Indemnity*, *Mad Max: Fury Road*, and *Donnie Darko*. Analysis of these films will be strengthened through readings, study guides, and class discussions. Assessments include written critiques and analysis, quizzes, tests, and a culminating final video project that demonstrates students' understanding of film techniques. *NOTE: For DI and DII Athletes, this course is not an NCAA core academic course.

0383 College in the Schools: Introduction to Public Speaking

Grades 11, 12

Prerequisite: Top 50% of class; A or B in Speech 10,
Or Teacher Recommendation

Introduction to Public Speaking is a University of Minnesota college course that encourages students in the top 50% of their class to take a risk in a course that is performance based. Students should have received an A or B in the Speech 10 or Honors 10 class. Writing and research skills are an important component of this course. Students must meet deadlines and be committed to the art of speech performance and personal growth. The students will write and deliver various types of speeches: storytelling, special occasion, informative and persuasive. The rules and expectations of the University of Minnesota govern this course. This is a THREE-credit entry level college communications course.

0387 Multicultural Literature and Contemporary Issues

Grades 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

American screenwriter Robert Alan Aurthur once said, "Cultural differences should not separate us from each other, but rather cultural diversity brings a collective strength that can benefit all of humanity." Literature is a powerful tool. Poetry, fiction, and nonfiction take us out of our bubbles and teach us new ways of thinking and living so we can better appreciate the world around us. In this course, we will explore great works of poetry, fiction, and nonfiction written by and about many different cultural groups in the United States and beyond. This elective will be student-driven; you will be given a wide variety of choice in both reading and assessment to allow you to follow your interests. Class will be focused on choice reading, small-group discussion, and reflective writing. By the end of this course, you will develop a richer, more diverse cultural and literary understanding. Expect this class to teach you not only about literature, but also to teach you about yourself and open your minds to new experiences.

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