

## ENGLISH 1, LEVEL 4 (N200134)

This course explores thematic, universal questions central to works of literature, with an emphasis on how the use of language shapes meaning and the human experience. The pace, complexities, and demands of this curriculum require that students have a demonstrated capacity for abstract thought as well as a natural curiosity about language, literature, and the writing process. Through a study of poetry, short stories, novels, essays, myth, and philosophy, students debate and answer essential questions addressing common themes of creation, heroism, happiness, honor, justice, and love. Composition exercises reflect individual responses to the themes and literature studied and a mastery of many traditional rhetorical skills. Students are challenged to develop unique approaches to composition that balance mechanics with a consideration of audience, purpose, and form. Oral expression takes the form of classroom discussion, formal speech, informative presentation, dramatic interpretation, and group interaction.

**SUMMER READING:** "The Sword in the Stone" from The Once and Future King, White

### I. FIRST SEMESTER

**A. Orientation** Academic Integrity, STAR Reading Assessment

### B. Grammar, Usage, Composition, and Vocabulary

**core:** A Pocket Style Manual, Hacker (Bedford/St. Martin's)  
Vocabulary for the College Bound Student, 4<sup>th</sup> ed, (Amsco)

**C. Short Stories** Selected From English Department Files

In selecting from **Novellas** below, at least one text selected must deal with exposing students to how a racially marginalized group contends with the expectations, challenges, and possible cruelties of a majority group. Texts marked with an \* satisfy this requirement.

**D. Non-fiction** Tribe, Junger (Twelve)  
Hidden Potential, (Grant)

**E. Novellas** *Select one:*  
House on Mango Street, Cisneros (Vintage)\*  
Siddhartha, Hesse (Bantam)

II. SECOND SEMESTER

- A. Poetry**                    **core:** Sound and Sense, Perrine (Chapters 1-5)  
– see Appendix A for core poems.
- B. Mythology**                    Selections from Mythology, Hamilton (Little, Brown)
- C. Epic Poetry**                    **core:** The Odyssey, Homer, Fitzgerald trans. (Vintage)  
Selections from The Penelopiad, Atwood (Cannongate)
- D. Dramatic Poetry**                    *Select one:*  
Romeo and Juliet, Shakespeare (Folger)  
A Midsummer Night’s Dream, Shakespeare (Folger)
- E. Outside Reading**                    *Select one:*  
An Illiad, Baricco (Vintage)  
Lost Books of the Odyssey, (Muson, Farrar)  
Big Fish, Wallace  
Home, Toni Morrison
- F. Film Options**                    The Odyssey, Konchalovsky (1997)  
O Brother, Where Art Thou?, Coen (2000)  
Ulysses, (1955)  
Romeo and Juliet, Zeffirelli (1968), Luhrmann (1996)  
Midsummer Night’s Dream, Hoffman (1999)  
Big Fish

SELECTIONS:

A. Poetry:

Title	Author	Note
Sound and Sense	Perrine	Sound and Sense
“Facebook Sonnet”	Alexie	“Facebook Sonnet”
“Introduction to Poetry”	Collins	“Introduction to Poetry”
“Forgetfulness”	Crane	“Forgetfulness”
“plato told him”	Cummings	“plato told him”
“Bereft”	Frost	“Bereft”
“Departmental”	Frost	“Departmental”
"Story Wheel"	Harjo	"Story Wheel"
“The Whipping”	Hayden	“The Whipping”
“Those Winter Sundays”	Hayden	“Those Winter Sundays”
“Digging”	Heaney	“Digging”

<b>Title</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Note</b>
"A Study of Reading Habits"	Larkin	"A Study of Reading Habits"
"The Wedding Ring"	Levertof	"The Wedding Ring"
"Ars Poetica"	MacLeish	"Ars Poetica"
"The Tropics of New York"	McKay	"The Tropics of New York"
"Dulce et Decorum Est"	Owen	"Dulce et Decorum Est"
"Penelope"	Parker	"Penelope"
"The Mirror"	Plath	"The Mirror"
"Ballad of Birmingham"	Randall	"Ballad of Birmingham"
"Piazza Piece"	Ransom	"Piazza Piece"
"Aunt Jennifer's Tigers"	Rich	"Aunt Jennifer's Tigers"
"A Small Story About the Sky"	Rios	"A Small Story About the Sky"
"My Papa's Waltz"	Roetke	"My Papa's Waltz"
"Flamingo Watching"	Ryan	"Flamingo Watching"
"The Eagle"	Tennyson	"The Eagle"
"Sea Turtle and the Shark"	Tolson	"Sea Turtle and the Shark"
"Death for Bad Guys Tastes Like Candy"	White	"Death for Bad Guys Tastes Like Candy"
"When I Was Growing Up"	Wong	"When I Was Growing Up"
"I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud"	Wordsworth	"I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud"

**B. Short Stories:**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Note</b>
"The Fish"	Banks	"The Fish"
"A Poetics for Bullies"	Elkins	"A Poetics for Bullies"
"Araby"	Joyce	"Araby"
"Through the Tunnel"	Lessing	"Through the Tunnel"
"Paper Menagerie"	Liu	"Paper Menagerie"
"A Hanging"	Orwell	"A Hanging"
"Initiation"	Plath	"Initiation"
"Adventures of an Indian Princess"	Riley	"Adventures of an Indian Princess"
"The Lie"	Vonnegut	"The Lie"
"Trev"	Woodson	"Trev"
"Soft-Hearted Sioux"	Zitkala-Sa	"Soft-Hearted Sioux"

**C. Essays:**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Note</b>
"On Happiness" from the Ethics	Aristotle	
"Of the Function of the Sovereign Representative"	Hobbes	
"The Dare"	Hoffman	

<b>Title</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Note</b>
"Archaeological Origin Story of Eden"	Knox	
"How Civilization Started"	Lanchester	
"The Prince"	Machiavelli	
"The Communist Manifesto"	Marx and Engels	
"The Allegory of the Cave"	Plato	
"University Days"	Thurber	
"How to Write with Style"	Vonnegut	
"Beauty: When the Other Dancer is the Self"	Walker	