



Northern York County School District

Curriculum Overview

Course: Honors English II	
Grade Level: 10th	
Approval Date:	Length of Time: 180 Days
Course Description: <p>Honors English II emphasizes analytical reading of complex texts across genres—short stories, novels, drama, and poetry—with a focus on literary elements, thematic depth, and authorial intent. Students will participate in small group discussions and full class literary discussions in addition to activities that are geared toward analyzing texts at a deeper level. Students engage in sophisticated writing tasks, including creative writing, analytical essays, argumentative compositions, and research-based writing, using the writing process to refine clarity and style. Vocabulary and grammar instruction are integrated to support precision in both written and spoken communication. The course also prepares students for the Keystone exam and fosters independent inquiry, academic discourse, and intellectual growth.</p>	
Course Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Apply a strong structure to support claims and focus ideas using evidence and precise language.• Apply independent and collaborative verbal communication techniques to communicate messages clearly to varied audiences.• Analyze how an author’s purpose shapes stylistic choices and influences the credibility of a text.• Evaluate the effectiveness of the author’s use of literary elements in developing character motivation and thematic meaning.• Identify and analyze an explicit or implicit position with awareness of credibility using specific features and techniques.• Develop and analyze a topic or concept using the most relevant categories delineated by supporting reasons or credible evidence with an awareness of language and style for varied purposes and audiences.• Generate and organize original ideas through creative writing pieces.• Apply critical thinking and knowledge of credible sources in an MLA research paper.	
Related Standards: <p>CC.1.2: Reading Informational Text: Students read, understand, and respond to informational text – with emphasis on comprehension, making connections among ideas and between texts with focus on textual evidence.</p> <p>CC.1.3: Reading Literature: Students read and respond to works of literature - with emphasis on comprehension, making connections among ideas and between texts with focus on textual evidence.</p> <p>CC.1.4: Writing: Students write for different purposes and audiences. Students write clear and focused text to convey a well-defined perspective and appropriate content.</p>	

CC.1.4.: Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately.

CC.1.5: Speaking and Listening: Students present appropriately in formal speaking situations, listen critically, and respond intelligently as individuals or in group discussions.

CC.1.5: Present information, findings, and supporting evidence clearly, concisely, and logically such that listeners can follow the line of reasoning; ensure that the presentation is appropriate to purpose, audience, and task.

Units:

- Fiction
- Non-Fiction
- Drama
- Poetry
- Research Process
- Independent Study: Fiction & Non-Fiction Study

Concepts:

- **Critical Reading and Thinking:** involves analyzing how authors use language and structure to convey meaning and persuade audiences. They draw connections across texts and apply insights to discussions and written responses.
- **Written Communication:** the ability to organize writing logically and also learn to revise and edit their work with greater independence, focusing on clarity, tone, and coherence.
- **Verbal communication:** the ability to clearly use verbal communication by speaking clearly, listening actively, and adapting their language and tone to suit different audiences, settings, and purposes.
- **Evaluating Information:** the ability to analyze sources for credibility, identifying bias or faulty reasoning, and using strong evidence to make well-informed conclusions.
- **Planning & Organization:** involves combining ideas from multiple sources to develop a clear, original understanding or argument. Organizing ideas for flow and cohesion for all forms of writing.
- **Synthesizing Information:** the ability to combine ideas from multiple sources to form a clean, original understanding or argument. In 10th grade, students enhance their skills by combining ideas from multiple sources to develop a clear, original understanding or argument. Individual opinions and takeaways

Competencies:

- Students will learn effective writing practices, including brainstorming, drafting, and both self & peer editing.
- Students will demonstrate active listening and communication skills by understanding and responding thoughtfully, while clearly expressing their ideas using appropriate tone and language.
- Students will gain enhanced reading comprehension through exposure to and discussion of multiple text genres.
- Students will use text references to support arguments in written and verbal communication.
- Students will Identify and interpret literary elements/techniques to analyze. character motivation and themes
- Students will write focused, well-organized pieces with supporting evidence, using appropriate style and correct grammar, while revising for clarity and coherence.
- Students will develop confidence in writing and sharing original texts.
- Students will be exposed to and practice best practices for peer collaborations.
- Students will find text evidence in a variety of texts and make logical conclusions.
- Students will be able to evaluate credible sources by verifying facts from opinions using multiple sources.

are encouraged for students to apply to real word issues and needs.	
Learning Activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essay writing • Short story writing • Text analysis • Small group and whole group discussion • Individual/Group presentations • Group collaboration projects • Research 	Performance Tasks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tests • Quizzes • Writing Assignments • Project Based Assessments • Class Discussions • Play writing / performance
Other Assessment Measures: Literature Keystone exam	
Textbook/Primary Resource: <i>Adventures in Appreciation</i> – Athena Edition <i>Anthem</i> by Ayn Rand <i>The Miracle Worker</i> by William Gibson <i>First They Killed My Father</i> by Loung Ung <i>Much Ado About Nothing</i> by William Shakespeare	
Supplemental Resource Materials: <i>I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings</i> by Maya Angelou <i>Lord of the Flies</i> by William Golding <i>The Help</i> movie (Story written by Kathryn Stockett) Online resources Teacher generated notes and presentations Teacher generated activities Multimedia resources	