

Course Title:	Modern Communications and Career Writing
Grade(s):	12

Course Description
Students learn effective communication skills for college, business, and personal success. Students will approach reading and writing through the lens of their future selves, who have a significant stake in learning to communicate quickly and efficiently with a variety of audiences and for different purposes. This shift in perspective, from current high school student to future responsible adult, will require them to plan, imagine, create, and reconsider their previously held beliefs about the utility of reading and writing. Career-ready students require the confidence not only to fulfill the general duties of their jobs but also to communicate their ideas, to find solutions to problems, and to participate in conversations. Through reading and writing experiences focused on real-world scenarios, students will have adequate practice writing with practical and authentic purposes. Senior English electives have the option to contract for Honors level. Contract Leveling allows students the opportunity to earn honors credit. Honors students will be required to explore a sustained independent project in addition to the work expectations of the class. More details will be presented at the beginning of each semester.
Approved Curricular Materials/Textbook(s)
<i>Tuesdays with Morrie</i> <i>Limetown</i>

Unit Title	Unit Description (Include Unit Objectives)	Unit Pacing
Unit 1: Senior Word of the Year	Students begin the course by examining the power of words—how a single word can guide goals, shape perspective, and reflect personal values. They study vocabulary in meaningful ways, analyze famous quotations, and reflect on who they hope to become after graduation. Students build reading stamina, explore dictionary tools, and create both visual and written pieces that express the word they choose to represent their senior year. This mini unit concludes in the Senior Word of the Year, Part 1 & Part 2 assignment.	1-2 weeks (September) (January)*

Unit 2: The Future Careers Project-Based Learning (PBL)	In this unit, students learn practical research skills they'll need in college and the workplace. They develop meaningful research questions, gather and evaluate information from multiple sources, and keep a research journal to track their process. Students write a clear thesis, craft an introductory paragraph, and revise their thinking as they learn more. The unit culminates in a project on a career they may pursue in the future.	3 weeks (September-October) (February)*
Unit 3: Words of Wisdom	Students will read <i>Tuesdays with Morrie</i> to explore themes like communication, love, loss, and the meaning of work and relationships. Alongside the literature, they learn how to conduct interviews, ask thoughtful questions, and listen actively. Students transcribe their interviews and create a podcast that blends insights from their interviewee with the lessons from the book.	3 weeks (October-November) (February-April)*
Unit 4: Genre Writing & Real- World Communication	The final unit focuses on genres people encounter in real life, from police reports to apologies to eulogies and missing persons posters. Students listen to the <i>Limetown</i> podcast and analyze how information is shaped by genre, purpose, and audience. They then write their own genre-based texts, applying the appropriate tone, structure, and detail for each. Genre Writing Collection: police report, apology, eulogy, missing persons poster, and others.	5 weeks (November-January) (April-June)*

* Second Semester