

ENGLISH



ENGLISH

WORLD LITERATURE I (9)

ENGLISH 9

CREDITS: 1.0

PREREQUISITE: None

Students will explore a variety of literary genres from around the world, including some of the very earliest myths and histories up to the Middle Ages; key passages from the Bible; and poems, essays, and memoirs from great writers and philosophers. They will also sharpen their writing skills as they practice expository, descriptive, persuasive, and narrative techniques. As they write, they will focus on grammar and usage to specify and clarify their written and spoken language, with the end goal of improving their communication skills. Additionally, they will expand their vocabulary and confidence in literary analysis, and they'll gain essential research skills by practicing MLA formatting. This course empowers students to write with clarity and creativity, and to read with confidence—preparing them for success in both academics and life outside of school.

HONORS WORLD LITERATURE I (9)

H ENG 9

CREDITS: 1.0

PREREQUISITE: Placement test scores and teacher recommendation

This course is designed for students who have demonstrated a solid foundation of composition and reading comprehension skills. The content of the course is similar to World Literature I but is studied at an accelerated pace, allowing for independent reading and writing projects. In addition, it includes advanced coverage of grammar skills and composition techniques. Students will exercise their critical thinking skills. Students will study MLA formatting to improve writing and research skills.

WORLD LITERATURE II (10)

English 10

CREDITS: 1.0

PREREQUISITE: None

From the grandeur of the Middle Ages to the turbulent times of World War II, students will explore a diverse array of literary treasures from various cultures and countries. Diving into compelling essays, plays, novels, poetry, and short stories, students will discover timeless insights into human nature. Building upon the skills introduced freshman year, students will sharpen their persuasive and critical writing ability through various forms of writing while mastering vocabulary, grammar, syntax, and MLA formatting.

HONORS WORLD LITERATURE II (10)

H ENG 10

CREDITS: 1.0

PREREQUISITE: Teacher recommendation along with a B average in Honors World Literature 1, OR teacher recommendation along with an A average from World Literature 1 and completion of an honors writing sample.

Moving at a faster pace and diving deeper into literary and philosophical analysis, Honors English 10 follows the general trajectory of World Literature II. Students who have already demonstrated a strong grasp of composition and reading comprehension skills will refine their persuasive and critical writing skills through various forms of writing while mastering vocabulary, grammar, syntax, and MLA formatting alongside their study of classic works from authors such as Dante and Tolstoy.

AMERICAN LITERATURE (11)

ENGLISH 11

CREDITS: 1.0

PREREQUISITE: None

Students will explore the evolution of American Literature from the pioneering Early Settler period to the transformative 20th century, engaging with classic essays, novels, poetry, and short stories. Students will sharpen their critical thinking skills and develop more persuasive writing through compelling, thesis-driven compositions. To elevate their command of language and prepare for college entrance exams, students will master vocabulary, grammar, syntax, usage, and the intricacies of MLA formatting—all designed to enhance their writing and research abilities.

AP LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION (11)

AP ENG LANG

CREDITS: 1.0

PREREQUISITE: Teacher recommendation along with a B average in Honors 10 OR a teacher recommendation along with an A average from Advanced English 10 and completion of an AP writing sample.

Designed to mirror a college-level rhetoric and writing course, AP Language and Composition engages students in the art of crafting evidence-based, analytic, and argumentative essays, honing their skills through multiple stages and drafts. Students will explore the powerful impact of rhetorical elements in both non-fiction and fiction, including graphic images as text, across various disciplines and historical periods. The research process and the development of the student's own writing style also come into focus through various assignments. Special attention is given to American literature, with other texts serving as support and contrast. Following the College Board AP curriculum, this course will prepare students for the AP exam as well as for excellence in academic and personal writing.

BRITISH LITERATURE (12)

ENGLISH 12

CREDITS: 1.0

PREREQUISITE: None

Surveying classic texts from the Anglo-Saxon period to the present, this course will strengthen students' understanding of literary terms and concepts specific to different literary periods. This course stresses both formal and informal writing, with emphasis on the thesis-driven, critical essay. To further fine-tune their compositions, students will review grammatical, MLA style, and mechanical concerns, particularly in the context of writing. Vocabulary is taken from literary selections.

AP LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION (12)

AP ENG LIT

CREDITS: 1.0

PREREQUISITE: Teacher recommendation along with a B average in AP Language and Composition OR a teacher recommendation along with an A average from Advanced English 11 and completion of an AP writing sample.

For those who love unraveling the hidden layers of novels, poems, and plays, the AP English Literature and Composition course acts as a gateway to the intricate world of literary analysis, aligning to an introductory college-level experience. The course engages students in the close reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature to deepen their understanding of the ways writers work with the beauty of language and the artistry of narrative structure. As they read, students consider a work's structure, style, and themes as well as its use of literary elements and techniques. Writing assignments require students to refine their skills through a series of analytical and argumentative essays that challenge them to interpret and critique literary pieces. The syllabus follows the College Board AP curriculum.

CREATIVE WRITING (10-12)

CR WRITING

CREDITS: 0.5

PREREQUISITE: None

This course is designed to foster creative thinking and writing. Students read and evaluate various selections from well-known authors to gain perspective about writing styles and techniques. Poetry, short stories, personal narratives, essays, and reviews are covered each semester. Students are expected to produce a number of literary pieces and projects to create a portfolio of their creative writing. Members of the class help with the production of the literary magazine, The Looking Glass, and thereby learn publication skills such as editing, critiquing, design, and layout.

MYTHOLOGY (10-12)

MYTHOLOGY

CREDITS: 0.5

PREREQUISITE: None

Beginning with traditional Greek and Roman mythology, this course focuses on the different mythologies of Egyptian, Norse, Arthurian, and other cultures. Students will learn about the major gods and goddesses of each culture as well as the role the mythology played in the everyday life of the people.

SPEECH (10-12)

SPEECH

CREDITS: 0.5

PREREQUISITE: None

This course will focus on the technical aspects of public speaking, not the speech-writing aspect of speech. Most if not all of the speeches given will be done using publicly available works. The unique gifts and techniques of our performing arts instructors will help students get over their fear of public speaking and support students' enunciation and projection. By the end of this course, students will be able to speak confidently, loudly, and clearly, so everyone can hear and appreciate what they have to say in settings large and small. Being able to speak in front of a group of people is something every high school graduate should be able to do to be successful in college and beyond.