

English Language Arts

Requirements:

- English 9
- American Lit.
- British Lit.
- Elective English (1 credit)

Courses Offered	9	10	11	12
English 9	•			
American Lit.		•		
British Lit.			•	
Modern American Lit.			•	•
Speech		•	•	•
Forensics	•	•	•	•
Intro to Theatre	•	•	•	•
Adv. Theatrical Production		•	•	•
Writing Workshop			•	•
Film as Lit.			•	•
Sports Literature			•	•
A.P. English				•

Advanced Theatrical Production

Grades 10, 11, 12

1 Trimester | 1/2 credit

Prerequisite: Introduction to Theatre or Instructor Approval is required.

In this course, students will learn the process of producing dramatic works and perform in a theatrical production. Students will learn how to read and select plays for production and will go through all phases of producing a show for the stage and an audience. The class centers its philosophy on the practical application of skills learned such as set design, script analysis, lighting, make-up, costuming, properties, set construction, set painting, house organization and publicity. This class is for the student who has shown talent, enthusiasm, and dedication necessary to be a member of a theatre-producing company. Students should be capable of expressing a great variety of meanings through voice and body. Students enrolled in this class may be expected to meet outside of class for technical preparation and rehearsals prior to performance dates. The exact dates and times will be decided between the members of the class and the instructor in the first few weeks of class.

American Literature

Grade 10

2 Trimesters | 1 credit

Prerequisite: English 9

All sophomores must take American Literature. The class emphasizes the chronological development of American Literature (essay, poetry, short story, and novel). Another focus will be on writing essays following the steps in the writing process. Composition and vocabulary skill development will be used to aid in the improvement of the student's writing. The course will include journal writing, mini-grammar lessons, and focus techniques for writing more clearly. Students should expect nightly homework assignments.

A.P. English

Grade 12

3 Trimesters | 1.5 credits

Prerequisite: Eng. 9, Amer. Lit, Brit Lit, and senior status.

Advanced Placement English is a yearlong college-level literature and composition course designed to give the English student with exceptional abilities the opportunity to earn college credits. Practice AP tests will be taken throughout the year. Poetry, world literature and expository essays are the focal point of the reading and writing. Upon completion of the course, the student will write the Advanced Placement test in English Literature and Composition, administered in May. In rare circumstances, a placement exam may have to be given to limit overcrowding. A.P. Classes will not be dropped after August 15.

British Literature

Grade 11

2 Trimesters | 1 credit

Prerequisite: American Literature

All juniors must take British Literature. British Literature functions as a two-trimester college-prep course and is highly recommended for all college-bound students. It will emphasize the chronological development of British Literature (epic poetry, poetry, drama, short story, and novel). It will also focus on the organization and development of essays. Test prep will be covered through supplemental units. Students should expect nightly homework assignments throughout the year.

English 9

Grade 9

2 Trimesters | 1 credit

The emphasis for this course will be on skills necessary for successful written communication and for understanding and appreciating literature. The first semester will include vocabulary building, punctuation, writing skills, and literature in the form of short stories and novels. The second semester includes vocabulary building skills necessary for organizing and writing an essay and literature in the form of non-fiction and drama. Evaluation is based on daily assignments, classroom contribution, written assessments, quizzes, and exams. The student's willingness to work and organizational skills will also be a basis for evaluation.

Film as Literature

Grades 11,12

1 Trimester | 1/2 credit

Prerequisite: Junior level literature class

Film as Literature is designed to examine the unique literary topic of motion pictures. Students will examine all technical aspects of film production and analyze the messages they convey. The study of movies will be done through the viewing of films combined with the use of essays, writings, and research. Students will be expected to complete individual critiques of past and present films, as well as becoming familiar with genres and periods of movie making. Films from various eras and locations will be utilized, and students will strengthen their analytical skills as well as learn to recognize the film as an independent form of literature.

Forensics

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

1 Trimester | 1/2 credit

This course offers students an opportunity to explore competitive speech events associated with the Michigan Interscholastic Forensics Association (MIFA). The course combines skills in speaking, interpreting, writing, performing, and researching. Students will experience public speaking events that cover politics, power of persuasion, sales techniques, and television broadcasting; as well as interpretive events such as storytelling, poetry, prose, and drama. This class prepares students to compete in a MIFA sponsored speech competition if they choose.

Intro to Theatre

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

1 Trimester | 1/2 credit

This course is designed to develop an understanding of the process of producing theatre from the written script, to develop skills in theatrical performance, and to develop an appreciation of for the theatrical works, as well as learning about the production process. This class is a prerequisite for Advanced Theatrical Production. *This class may not count as an English elective at certain Colleges or Universities.

Modern American Literature

Grades 11, 12

1 Trimester | 1/2 credit

Prerequisite: Junior level literature class, with at least a “B” average.

This course, designed for the college-bound student, continues the study of American literature. Students will read and discuss 20th century fiction, poetry, drama, and non-fiction, focusing on how the works reflect, or sometimes try to escape, “modern life.” The course assignments are designed to help students adjust to the type of class organization they will encounter in college. Students will be expected to complete regular reading assignments; writing assignments that accompany the reading are designed to help students develop an intelligent, informed, personal interpretation of the works. Discussion and participation are encouraged and expected; these works invite a wide variety of responses.

Modern World Literature

Grades 11, 12

1 Trimester | 1/2 credit

Prerequisite: Junior level literature class, with at least a “B” average.

Modern World Literature focuses on 20th century works that come from outside the United States. While Europe and North America are still major literary players, great literature is increasingly being produced in Latin and South America as well as Asia and Africa. These authors provide a totally fresh perspective on the events that have shaped the century. We will read a wide variety of works, fiction, poetry, drama, and non-fiction, from a wide range of authors representing different nationalities and experiences. Like its companion course, Modern American Literature, this class stresses discussion, and individual interpretation. Students will be expected to complete regular reading assignments, in translation where necessary, and writing assignments will focus on the major global issues we discuss in class.

Speech

Grades 10, 11 ,12

1 Trimester | 1/2 credit

Prerequisite: English 9

In this class students will develop more effective oral communication skills. Students will recognize the effectiveness of good oral communication while presenting a personality and expressing ideas. Materials covered are communication theory, listening skills, organization techniques, speech delivery techniques, research, and debate. Students are expected to; present speeches to entertain, inform, and stimulate; debate a resolution, and participate in speech delivery exercises while in front of an audience comprised of their classmates.

Sports Literature

Grades 11 ,12

1 Trimester | 1/2 credit

This course primarily focuses on nonfiction literature and nonfiction writing. Literary experiences may include reading autobiographies, memoirs, essays, and speeches of renowned coaches and athletes; examining documentary story structure; studying visual literacy through the evaluation of photojournalism and videography storytelling; analyzing sports reporting on both TV and radio; writing a research paper on relevant and current sports related issues; and discussing the history of influence sports have had on our culture.

Through a combination of reading, writing and research, we will explore the following questions:

1. What are the histories of sports in America?
2. What types of writing is done about sports in America? Who does that writing?
3. What purposes does writing about sports serve?
4. What themes are recurrent in writing about American sports?
5. What does writing about American sports reveal about American culture?

Writing Workshop

Grades 11 ,12

1 Trimester | 1/2 credit

Prerequisite: Successful completion of a Junior level English class.

Writing Workshop is intended for those students who wish to express themselves creatively and imaginatively in such literary forms as short story and poetry. The keeping of journals as a source of ideas will be required. This course will enhance the students' skill and confidence as a writer. This course is NOT designed for college preparatory writing skills and may only be taken once all specific English requirements are met.