

English Language Arts

Requirements:

- English 9
- American Literature 10
- World Literature 11
- Style and Rhetoric
- Elective English

Courses Offered	9	10	11	12
English 9	•			
Foundations of English	•			
American Literature 10		•		
World Literature 11			•	
Modern American Literature			•	•
Modern World Literature			•	•
Speech		•	•	•
Forensics	•	•	•	•
Style and Rhetoric			•	
Theatre Appreciation	•	•	•	•
Theatrical Production	•	•	•	•
Writing Workshop			•	•
Film as Literature			•	•
Sports Literature			•	•
Advanced Placement English				•

American Literature 10 Required Course

Grade 10

2 Trimesters | 1 credit

Prerequisite: English 9

This class emphasizes the development of Literature (essay, poetry, short story, drama, non-fiction 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 and succinctly. Students should expect to verbally contribute daily in class as well as complete nightly homework assignments.

Advanced Placement English

Grade 12

3 Trimesters | 1.5 credits

Prerequisite: English 9, American Literature 10, World Literature 11 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. **AP Classes will not be dropped after August 1st.**

English 9 Required Course

Grade 9

2 Trimesters | 1 credit

In this two-trimester course, students will be exposed to a variety of written communication styles. This course will focus on the progression of successful written communication in a variety of situations. This will be accomplished through learning to understand and appreciate literature and its messages and themes, and responding to it. This course will include vocabulary/literary term building, punctuation, writing skills, and literature in the form of drama, non-fiction, and novels. Significant emphasis will be placed on learning to organize, communicate, and defend an opinion. Evaluation is based on daily assignments, written assessments, daily spoken and written classroom contributions, quizzes, and exams. Students' willingness to work, organizational skills, and participation in class discussions will impact final grade.

Film as Literature

Grades 11 ,12

1 Trimester | .5 credit

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 (Competitive Speech and Drama)

Grades 9, 10, 11 ,12

1 Trimester | .5 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. Through project-based learning, students will participate in each of the three types of events that are part of forensics: limited preparation events, prepared public address events and oral interpretation events. For limited preparation events, students will learn about events that cover politics, podcasts with social commentary and television broadcasting; they will also deliver impromptu speeches. Students will research, write, and deliver a prepared, informative, persuasive or sales speech. Finally, students will prepare a script for and perform an interpretive event of their choice, including Storytelling, Poetry, Pose, Dramatic Interpretation or Program Oral Interpretation. This class prepares students to compete in MIFA-sponsored speech competitions as part of the Forensics Team if they choose.

Foundations of English

Grade 9

1 Trimester | .5 credit

Teacher Recommendation Only

This course focuses on building strong foundational skills in reading, writing, speaking and critical thinking that are essential for academic success. Students will engage with a variety of literary and informational texts ranging from, but not limited to, poetry, novels, short stories, articles and music/lyrics; these interactions will help develop the ability to analyze themes, structure, and author's purpose while supporting their interpretations with evidence. Through classroom discussion, small group discussion and written opportunities, students will improve their written and spoken expression. Upon completing this course, all students' "foundations" will have been either developed or refined to ensure that they will have the necessary tools for success as they move through high school.

Modern American Literature

Grades 11 ,12

1 Trimester | .5 credit

Prerequisite: “B” average in previous English courses

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 | .5 credit

Prerequisite: “B” average in previous English courses

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 | .5 credit

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 | .5 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 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?

Style and Rhetoric Required Course

Grade 11

1 Trimester | .5 credit

Prerequisite: English 9 and American Literature 10

Students will explore how writers craft language to inform, persuade, and inspire. Through close reading and analysis of a variety of texts—including informational writing, personal narratives, literary works, speeches, and essays—students will study the elements that make communication clear, compelling, and effective. Emphasis will be placed on understanding rhetorical strategies, tone, and structure, as well as developing precision and control in students' own writing. The course will also provide focused instruction in grammar, syntax, and stylist conventions, helping students refine their writing for clarity, correctness, and impact. Students should expect to verbally contribute daily in class as well as complete nightly homework assignments.

Theatre Appreciation

Grades 9, 10, 11 ,12

1 Trimester | .5 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 for the theatrical works. -Students will learn about the evolution of theatre over time, and how a show is produced from start to finish. This class will include watching and evaluating recorded theatrical performances, reading and discussing plays, performing scripted and nonscripted scenes in small groups and writing scripts and essays.

*This class may count as a Performing Arts elective rather than as an English elective at colleges and universities.

Theatrical Production

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

1 Trimester | .5 credit

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,-construction and painting, script analysis, lighting, make-up, costuming, properties, house organization and publicity. 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. Plan to have at least one evening or weekend performance date (similar to how a music class culminates in a recital). Students will be expected to write essays evaluating the creative choices made during the production process.

*This class may count as a Performing Arts elective rather than an English elective at colleges and universities.

Writing Workshop

Grades 11 ,12

1 Trimester | .5 credit

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.

World Literature 11 Required Course

Grade 11

2 Trimesters | 1 credit

Prerequisite: English 9 and American Literature 10

This course will involve the study of authors from various eras and cultures. Genres will include non fiction, poetry, drama, short stories, and novels. It will also focus on the organization and refinement of writing skills. Students should expect to verbally contribute daily in class as well as complete nightly homework assignments.