

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ENGLISH

English 9

9th Grade

Year Long

1 Credit

This course develops three main skill areas of language arts: reading, writing, and grammar. The class examines a variety of genres including short story, novel, drama and poetry. Students learn higher level reading skills focused on understanding theme, interpreting meaning, and identifying author's craft. Writing skills focus on organizing ideas and crafting language purposefully. Grammar usage and mechanics are studied throughout the year and are reinforced in subsequent writing assignments. In all areas of study, active and independent learning, and logical and critical thinking are promoted.

Honors English 9

Prerequisites: Teacher Rec., STARS Test 10th Grade Level, Writing Sample, B+ average in English

Recommended for Grades: 9

Year Long

1 Credit

Honors English I is designed for the highly-motivated college-bound freshman. Students should demonstrate the ability to write with a high degree of competence based on an understanding of the writing process and the characteristics of good writing. The study of vocabulary will promote better verbal scores in reading comprehension on the ACT and SAT. Students will read and discuss short stories, plays, poetry and essays from an anthology of literature. Students will write two book reviews. Other writing assignments will include but not be limited to description, character sketch, personal narrative, persuasion and analysis.

English 10

Recommended for Grades: 10

Year Long

1 Credit

The goal for English Language Arts 10 is to continue to build a solid foundation of knowledge, skills, and strategies that will be refined, applied, and extended as students engage in more complex ideas, texts, and tasks. In English Language Arts 10, students will add to the list of various genre of classic and contemporary narrative and informational texts that will be read and analyzed throughout high school. Tenth graders will connect with and respond to texts through critical response and stance. They will learn to evaluate for validity and quality, to balance and expand their perspectives promoting empathy, social action and appropriate use of power. Critical response and stance offers students the lens to assess and modify their beliefs, views of the world, and how they have power to impact them.

Honors English 10

Pre Prerequisite: Recommendation of current Honors English I teacher, B average in English
Recommended for Grade: 10

Year Long

1 Credit

The goal for Honors English 10 is to acquire mastery of knowledge, skills, and strategies of more complex ideas, texts, and tasks in this college prep class. Students will add American Literature to the list of various genre of classic and contemporary, narrative and informational texts that will be read and analyzed throughout high school. The focus of exploration will be American novels and text.

Students will connect with and respond to texts through critical response and stance. They will learn to evaluate for validity and quality, to balance and expand their perspectives promoting empathy, social action and appropriate use of power. Critical Response and Stance offers students the lens to assess and modify their beliefs, views of the world, and how they have power to impact them.

English 11

Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation, B+ average in English

Recommended for Grade: 11

Year Long

1 Credit

This class will read and discuss world literature from a variety of cultures. Students will explore different genres that may include novel, short story, essay, drama, poetry, and nonfiction and other visual media. Students will examine the historical and cultural context of the literature as a means to understand it. The course will also focus on preparing students for the ACT test that is required of all juniors by the State of Michigan. Grammar, reading, and writing skills will be emphasized and tested regularly in preparation for the Spring ACT test.

Honors English 11

Prerequisites: Recommendation of current Honors English II teacher, B average in English

Recommended for Grade: 11

Year Long

1 Credit

This advanced level class will devote an entire year to the improvement of writing and analytical skills that the student has developed along the honors English path. We will utilize college level writing material and explore the finer aspects of the "Writing Process" culminating in a substantial research paper. Use of short stories, novels, and scholarly journal articles will provide students an opportunity to learn how to analyze and interpret multiple literary texts. The skills gained and developed in this class will assist and prepare the students for the ACT test taken at the end of the junior year.

English 12

Recommended for Grade: 12

Year Long

1 Credit

English 12 is a year-long literature survey course. Students will study the works of a variety of British authors. Special emphasis will be given to the study of a Shakespeare

play. The course will also include instruction in grammar and writing. Students will complete a senior project in the spring.

AP Literature

Teacher Recommendation

Year Long

1 Credit

AP Literature is a year-long survey course of British literature. The authors studied, including medieval poets, Chaucer, Shakespeare, and Dickens, are much the same as the ones studied in the general education sections, but the honors class delves into more depth. Tests take a variety of formats, from multiple choice to assigned essays to essays in which students develop their own topics. Students will do an interpretive reading during the study of Hamlet. In the spring, they will complete a senior project in fiction writing.