

## English

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A student must be registered in a core English course each semester. The curriculum builds language skills sequentially from freshman through senior levels. Writing-based courses introduce, develop, and refine student skills in all aspects of the writing process including literary analyses, personal essays, and creative writings. In addition, reading development is approached through the various literature studied in each course.

The first two years of English course work consist of two full-year core courses: English I and II.

In the junior year the student must take

1. one semester of English III (British Literature I) AND
2. a minimum of one semester choice from the five choices offered from the junior choices

In the senior year the student must take

1. a minimum of two semester choices from the list of senior choices

If any student takes a year-long course his junior or senior year, then he or she need not select any of the junior or senior options, since he or she has already fulfilled the graduation requirement.

The Communication Electives (special interest courses) may be taken in addition to the core curriculum but do not count toward fulfillment of English requirements for graduation.

Because Honors and Advanced Placement (AP) course work is accelerated and more sophisticated, upper level work of high quality in a compacted time frame is demanded of students. The English Department has developed recommendations for student success. These criteria are indicators of performance levels or standards for the Honors or A.P. courses and are available from the English Department.

## English Course Listings

<b>Freshman Courses</b>			
<b>Course #</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Prerequisite</b>
9286	English I-Academic Literacy and Composition	Year	Placement
4204	English I-Literature, Language and Composition	Year	None
4205	English I-Honors Literature, Language and Composition	Year	None
<b>Sophomore Courses</b>			
<b>Course #</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Prerequisite</b>
4286	English II-Academic Literacy and Composition	Year	Placement
4206	English II-American Literature and Composition	Year	
4207	English II-Honors American Literature and Composition	Year	
4929	English II-American Society (2 period block with social studies)	Year	
<b>Junior Courses</b>			
<b>Course #</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Prerequisite</b>
4226	English III-British and Contemporary Literature and Composition	Year	Placement
4229	English III-Advanced Placement Language and Composition	Year	
<b>Juniors not in 4226 or 4229 must take 4228 and one additional course from the Junior choices list.</b>			
4228	English III-British Literature I and Composition	Sem.	English II
<b>Junior Choices</b>			
4227	English III-Contemporary Literature and Composition	Sem.	English II
4235	English III-Mythology and Composition	Sem.	English II
4239	English III-Dramatic Literature and Composition	Sem.	English II
4247	English III-British Literature II and Composition	Sem	English II
4258	English III-Cultural Studies and Composition	Sem.	English II

Senior Courses			
Course #	Title	Duration	Prerequisite
4236	English IV-Film Studies – Communication and Composition	Year	Placement
4249	English IV-Advanced Placement Literature and Composition	Year	
<b>Seniors not in 4236 or 4249 must take two courses from the following seven choices.</b>			
Senior Choices			
4238	English IV -Film Studies and Composition	Sem.	
4246	English IV-20th Century Literature and Composition	Sem.	
4266	English IV-Poetry and Composition	Sem.	
4276	English IV-World Literature I and Composition	Sem.	
4277	English IV-World Literature II and Composition	Sem.	
4282	English IV-Philosophy through Literature and Composition	Sem.	
4283	English IV-Communication and Composition	Sem.	
Communication Electives			
Course #	Title	Level	Prerequisite
4220	Public Speaking	Sem. 10-12	None
4222	Theatre Arts I	Sem. 10-12	None
4224	Theatre Arts II	Sem. 10-12	Theatre Arts I
4230	Creative Writing I	Sem. 10-12	None
4232	Creative Writing II	Sem. 11-12	Creative Writing I
4240	Newspaper Journalism	Year 10-12	Instructor Approval
4242	Yearbook Journalism	Year 10-12	Instructor Approval
4287	Reading - Academic Literacy	Year 9	Placement
4280	College Prep Reading	Sem. 10-11	None
4284	Reading Workshop I	Year 9	Placement required
4284	Reading Workshop II	Year 10	Placement required
4285	Reading Workshop III	Year 11	Placement required

## English Course Descriptions

All English courses are year-long unless noted.

### **Freshman Level Core Courses**

**9286 English I – Academic Literacy and Composition** - This course focuses on the development of reading skills through the analysis of fiction, nonfiction, short story, novel, poetry, and drama. Descriptive, expository, persuasive, and narrative writing, as well as basic research techniques and communication skills are addressed. In addition, students refine grammar and usage skills through the writing process and effective composition strategies. Major themes covered include "Man and Survival," "Effects of War," "Influence of Money," "Intelligence and its Function," "Crime and Punishment," and "Loyalty through Friendship." This full-year course meets for two consecutive periods providing time for practice and growth in reading. This course is not NCAA core approved.

**4204 English I – Literature, Language and Composition** - This full-year course focuses on literary analysis through study of myth, short story, novel, poetry, and drama. Descriptive, expository, persuasive, and narrative writing, as well as basic research techniques and speaking skills are emphasized. In addition, students will refine grammar and usage skills through the writing process and effective composition strategies. Major themes and works studied include "Coming of Age" and "Visions of the Future. *To Kill A Mockingbird*, *Romeo and Juliet*, and *Fahrenheit 451* are titles studied.

**4205 English I Honors – Literature, Language and Composition** - This course emphasizes analytical consideration of mythology, short story, novel, poetry, and tragic drama. Refinement of the principles of grammar, usage, and precision of expression is taught through emphasis on effective composition skills. Through the study of literature and composition, the course begins to prepare the student for the Advanced Placement test as juniors and seniors.

***Sophomore Level Core Courses***

**4286 English II – Academic Literacy and Composition-** This full-year course focuses on the development of reading skills through the analysis of fiction, nonfiction, short story, novel, poetry, and drama. Descriptive, expository, persuasive, narrative, and literary analysis writing, as well as basic research techniques and communication skills, are addressed through instruction. In addition, students refine their grammar and usage skill through the writing process and the application of essential composition strategies. The class provides an effective bridge from the practice and application of reading strategies, especially inferring, evaluating, and synthesizing, to nonfiction text to the practice and application of reading strategies to fiction text, which is necessary for a successful junior year. This full-year course meets for two consecutive periods providing time for practice and growth in reading and writing. This course is not NCAA core approved.

**4206 English II - American Literature and Composition** - This full-year course includes the study of American Literature from colonial through contemporary periods. Students will read journals, biographies, essays, novels, short stories, plays, and poetry representing American authors and authors of various ethnic backgrounds. The literature will promote students' analytical abilities and will encourage critical thinking through the writing of expository, persuasive, and narrative essays. In addition, the literature will serve as models and material for speaking in persuasive, informative, and entertaining forums. Major themes/works studied include "The American Dream," "Creating the Self," *The Great Gatsby*, and *The Crucible*.

**4207 English II Honors - American Literature and Composition** - This full-year course includes the study of American Literature from colonial through contemporary periods. Students will read journals, biographies, essays, novels, short stories, plays, and poetry representing American authors and authors of various ethnic backgrounds. The literature will promote students' analytical abilities and will encourage critical thinking through the writing of expository, persuasive, and narrative essays. In addition, the literature will serve as models and material for speaking in persuasive, informative, and entertainment forums. Through the study of literature and composition, the course continues to prepare the student for the Advanced Placement test as juniors and seniors.

**4929 American Society- 2 period block of English II & American Studies** - Two periods, all year. This year-long course provides a two-credit alternative to separate American Studies and English classes. Students will receive individual grades for each course and will fulfill the graduation requirements for both Sophomore English and U.S. History. The linkage between the two courses allows for many opportunities to emphasize the connections between American literature, history, art, music and architecture through team-teaching, joint assignments and projects. The course demands active student participation, intensive outside reading, and experiences beyond the classroom (i.e. field trip, projects). Students who are interested in studying English and history through this creative humanities emphasis will enjoy this option. Major works include: *The Crucible*, *The Great Gatsby*, and *Warriors Don't Cry*. One credit of English and one credit of Social Studies is awarded upon successful completion of this course.

***Junior Level Core Courses and Choices*****Core Courses**

**4226 English III – British and Contemporary Literature and Composition-** This year-long course surveys British literature in thematic units. It is designed to reinforce valuable principles and usage of reading along with an emphasis on improving composition skills. Students complete a research project during the second semester. This course is not NCAA approved for core.

**4228 English III - British Literature I and Composition – One Semester.** This required one-semester course (except for students taking 4226 [above] or 4229 [below]) continues college preparation of language and composition skills through concentration on the study of works such as *Beowulf*, *The Canterbury Tales*, and *Macbeth*. Emphases on written skills continue primarily based on critical analyses of works studied as well as on the writing of personal essays.

**4229 English III – Advanced Placement Language and Composition** - This year-long course emphasizes the genres of British literature and continues the writing of critical literary analyses as well as the writing of personal essays. The course prepares students for the Advanced Placement English Language and Composition examination, which is administered in May of the junior year. Students in this course often take an additional junior choice to their second semester studies.

**Junior Choices**

**The following are second semester junior classes. Juniors enrolled in English 4228 must choose one of the following electives to complete the high school four-year English requirement. Juniors in Practical Reading and Writing (4250) or AP (4229) English classes may opt to take English 4247, 4239, 4227, 4228 or 4235 as electives only.**

**4227 English III - Contemporary Literature and Composition** - *One semester.* This class provides the opportunity for students to experience current issues through contemporary fiction and non-fiction. Through analysis of novels, short stories, and nonfiction, students will examine the relevance of the literature to their experience. While reading high-interest literature, students will continue building their writing, thinking, and vocabulary skills.

**4235 English III - Mythology and Composition** - *One semester.* This course is designed to acquaint students with world myths, legends, and folklore that form a people's literary heritage, gaining an appreciation for literature of other cultures and time periods, including African, Celtic, and Middle and Far East. Students will work toward mastery of writing, speaking, cooperative learning, and higher-level thinking. Through the study of mythology and its influence in modern literature, students will increase their global appreciation and insight into the human experience.

**4239 English III - Dramatic Literature and Composition** - *One semester.* This course offers a study of drama from various theatrical genres and historical periods. Students will examine plays as literature, not play production. The reading and accompanying discussions and activities will provide a basis for expository and analytical writing. Through the study of dramatic literature, students will continue to enhance their reading, writing, and thinking skills.

**4247 English III - British Literature II and Composition** - *One semester.* This course offers a thematic and chronological approach to the continued study of British literature through essays, poetry, novels, and short stories found in the Age of Reason, the Romantic Era, the Victorian Era, and the Modern Era. Major works read include *Gulliver's Travels*, *Pride and Prejudice*, *Great Expectations*, and *A Clockwork Orange*. This course continues the emphasis on critical thinking, composition, and the interpretation of literature.

**4258 English III - Cultural Studies and Composition** - *One semester.* This course exposes students to literary works from a variety of cultures. The emphasis is on reading novels that are the products of the society in which they were produced. The similarities and differences among the various cultures studied will provide students with a historical and social perspective. By looking at the cycle through which society impacts literature which, in turn affects future society, students will gain an awareness of how multi-cultural literature affects and reflects today's society.

### ***Senior Level Core Courses and Senior Choices***

#### **Core Classes**

**4236 English IV - Film Studies, Communication and Composition** - This full-year course focuses on various aspects of film study including the technical viewpoint, the historical significance, and the visual approaches used to demonstrate thematic ideas in film. Also, students will focus on communication skills needed to effectively connect with others in their environment, personal relationships, daily activities, and professional settings. Students will focus on logically developing ideas with appropriate evidence, clear and precise language, and varied sentence structure. In this course students will utilize and refine their reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills. This course is not NCAA approved for core.

**4249 English IV – Advanced Placement Literature and Composition** - This year long course emphasizes various genres of World literature and continues the writing of critical analyses of works studied as well as the writing of personal essays. The course prepares students for the Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition examination, which is administered in May of the senior year. Students in this course also frequently add a senior choice to their semester studies.

#### **Senior Choices**

**The following are semester long senior classes. Seniors may choose two of the following electives to complete the high school, four-year English requirement. Seniors in English IV Film Studies, Composition and Communication (4236) or English IV Advanced Placement (4249) may opt to take these Senior Choice courses as electives only.**

**4238 English IV - Film Studies and Composition** - *One semester.* This semester course teaches seniors literature to film (*The Maltese Falcon*, *The Body*), the study of historical periods in film development (The Silent Era, German Expressionism, Documentary, and Suspense), and the technology of film production, in order to have seniors become visually literate, critical thinkers, and evaluative writers when interpreting media. To show mastery, students will respond through a variety of venues such as written analyses and class presentations. This class will hone critical thinking and composition skills learned in previous English course while instructing students on the concept of visual literacy.

**4246 English IV - 20th Century Literature and Composition** - *One semester.* This course allows seniors the opportunity to read a variety of contemporary novels, plays and short stories. Building on textual knowledge, critical thinking, and composition skills developed in previous English classes, students will question and determine the role of contemporary literature in society through a variety of written analyses, class presentations and quarterly projects.

**4266 English IV - Poetry and Composition** - *One Semester.* This course allows seniors the opportunity to enhance their creative expression by developing the skills and commitment essential for reading and writing poetry. Through the study of classical, modern, and contemporary poetry, students will be asked to respond to a wide variety of poetic prompts, and, in a workshop setting, to analyze and learn from one another's writing. Students will be encouraged to submit their writing for publication.

**4276 English IV - World Literature I and Composition** - *One Semester.* This one-semester course will provide students with an overview of timeless literary works from around the world. Students will read and respond to selected novels, plays, short stories, essays, and poetry. Students will gain an understanding of works of literary merit from other cultures and the universality of the human condition.

**4277 English IV - World Literature II and Composition** - *One-semester.* This course offers a continuation of the curriculum and intent of World Literature I, although World Literature I is NOT a prerequisite. The course provides students with a further exploration of timeless major literary works from around the world. Students will read and respond to selected novels, plays, short stories, essays, and poetry, gaining an understanding of works of literary merit from other cultures and the universality of the human condition.

**4282 English IV - Philosophy through Literature and Composition** - *One-semester.* In this course students will analyze the cultural roots of civilization through an examination of selected literature and its philosophies, preparing students for further study and enhancing their understanding of broader profound concepts such as knowledge, truth, the difference between right and wrong, justice, evil, fate, freedom, and beauty. Through this study students will hone critical thinking skills, study the basic principles of argumentation, creating cogent arguments in both discussion and writing.

**4283 English IV – Communication and Composition** - *One semester.* This course concentrates on communicating effectively in the academic environment, personal relationships, daily activities, and professional settings. In this course, students will utilize and refine their reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills. Students will focus on logically developing ideas with appropriate evidence, clear and precise language, and varied sentence structure. They will learn how to effectively communicate in different settings through instruction on teamwork, problem solving, technological application, leadership skills, and interaction with people in various roles and work situations, all to help them become successful communicators in the world beyond high school.

### ***Communication Electives***

**These courses count toward graduation as general electives, but NOT as fulfillment of the four-year English graduation requirement.**

**4220 Public Speaking** - *Grade 10-12. One semester.* This course develops essential oral communication skills introduced previously in the language arts experience. Individual speeches, such as children's stories, prose reading, award acceptance, impromptu speaking, radio speaking, and original essays are performed in this semester program. Special attention is given to acquiring poise, confidence, and dignity as a speaker.

**4222 Theatre Arts I** - *Grade 10-12. One semester.* This course is a student-oriented class that focuses on the theory of acting, the process of directing, and the elements of technical theatre. Theory will be interlaced with opportunities for hands-on involvement at all levels of the theatrical experience.

**4224 Theatre Arts II** - *Grade 10-12. One semester.* Theatre Arts I is a prerequisite for this course which builds upon concepts learned in Theatre Arts I while still centering on student participation and involvement. The focuses will be on more advanced styles of acting and more specific responsibilities inherent to the directing process, including technical aspects of theatre.

**4230 Creative Writing I** - *Grade 10-12. One semester.* This course enhances creative and imaginative expression by developing the skills, style, and commitment essential for effective writing. Students will create within a variety of genres: journals, short stories, poetry, essays, and drama.

**4232 Creative Writing II** - *Grade 11-12. One semester.* Prerequisite is Creative Writing I. This course significantly extends the writing experiences introduced in Creative Writing I. Its primary focus will be on poetry and short story writing. Students will create a portfolio for both their poetry and their short stories and will submit some of their work for publication.

**4240 Newspaper Journalism** - *Grade 10-12. Prerequisite is instructor's permission based on teacher recommendations regarding the student's writing ability, creativity, and dependability.* A test of basic writing skills and an interview may also be administered. This course develops writing, interviewing, and design skills which are applied when students produce the school newspaper. NOTE: This course may be repeated from the sophomore through the senior year with permission of the instructor.

**4242 Yearbook Journalism** - *Grade 10-12. Prerequisite is instructor's permission based on teacher recommendations regarding the student's writing ability, creativity, and dependability.* A test of basic writing skills and an interview may also be administered. This course develops skills such as writing copy, designing spreads, and desktop publishing. Students develop computer literacy skills and meet specific deadlines in order to produce the annual high school yearbook. NOTE: This course may be repeated from the sophomore through the senior year with permission of the instructor.

**4280 College Prep Reading** - *Grade 10-11. One semester.* This course will address the reading strategies required for comprehension of text materials and sophisticated fiction selections, etymology, and logic strategies. Test preparation will also be an element of this course: students will learn how to deal with the different test constructions (e.g. ACT, SAT) for improved test performance. This course will have a reading list and will require work outside class time.

**9284/4284 Reading Workshop I, II** - *Grade 9-10, Full Year* - Placement required. Reading Workshop is a year-long course designed to improve student's reading skills. Reading Workshop will emphasize comprehension strategies, vocabulary development, study skills, transference of reading strategies to content-area classes, enjoyment of reading, and written response to text.

**4285 Reading Workshop III** - *Grade 11, Full Year* - Placement required. Reading Workshop is a year-long course designed to improve student's reading skills. Reading Workshop will emphasize comprehension strategies, vocabulary development, study skills, transference of reading strategies to content-area classes, enjoyment of reading, and written response to text.