

LANGUAGE ARTS DEPARTMENT

ENGLISH 1

This freshman English course is designed for students with a reading level of ninth grade and higher. The course covers a study of these genres: short stories, novels, poetry, plays, and non-fiction, coordinated with the Global Studies Social Studies 1 course. Formal writing skills progress from paragraph structure to the expository essay and creative writing skills focus on autobiography and poetry. Speech assignments vary from the informal to the formal presentation. Individual and group tasks are assigned as well. Homework is routinely required for passing this course.

ENGLISH 2

This class is taught in coordination with World History and emphasizes World Literature and issues of global significance. This course reviews the first year's skills and places further emphasis on sentence clarity, methods of paragraph development, and persuasive and narrative essay writing. In addition, the course aims to develop an understanding of the meaning and structures of literature through the study of short story, novel, non-fiction, poetry, and drama. Students will also develop their research skills, using a wide variety of sources, in the preparation of projects and speeches. Students also learn interview and presentation skills.

ENGLISH 2 (H)

Prerequisite: Successful completion of English 1 with an A or B and approval from current English teacher.

This course is designed for the high school sophomore who is ready to begin preparation for college entry level work. The curriculum will focus on high level learning and the opportunity to acquire a deep understanding of the skills, habit of mind, and concepts needed to succeed in college. This class is taught in coordination with World History and emphasizes World Literature and issues of global significance. This course reviews the first year's skills and places further emphasis on sentence clarity, methods of paragraph development, persuasive and narrative essay writing, annotation of challenging texts, and introduction to rhetorical strategies and analysis in preparation for AP English. In addition, the course aims to develop an understanding of the meaning and structures of literature through the study of short story, novel, non-fiction, poetry, and drama. Students will also develop their research skills, using a wide variety of sources, in the preparation of projects and speeches. Students also learn extensive interview and presentation skills.

ENGLISH 3 (AP)

This course is designed for the high school junior who is ready to begin work at the college entry level. The curriculum will focus on American literature, its writers and poets, and is designed to further the students' understanding of the writer's craft and their sensitivity to literature as a shared human experience. Qualified students will experience a wide variety of writing opportunities in order to hone their skills as a writer, thinker, and critic of the new millennium. This class requires that a student have their teacher's recommendation, as well as demonstrated grades, skills, and a desire to exceed in a high-level course curriculum. Students must complete and pass testing on their summer reading course requirements, as well as any other entry-level requirement into the course. All students are required to take the AP test in May. AP students will receive an additional grade point upon GPA calculation.

ENGLISH 3

Prerequisite: Successful completion of English 2

This course is designed for juniors who are performing at grade level or higher, and is a demanding course in terms of reading and writing. The focus of the course is primarily American literature and is designed to build on the skills students have developed in their freshmen and sophomore years. Emphasis will be placed on meeting new state requirements for reading, listening, speaking and analyzing information and literature as required. Course will emphasize grammar review, as well as honing composition skills developed in the freshman and sophomore years. This course meets the standards for the California State University system and the University of California system.

ENGLISH 4 (AP)

As students carefully read works of literary merit, they practice and refine their skills and reach a new level of maturity in their writing and they develop their ability to analyze, write about and interpret literature. This college-level class prepares students to take the AP English Literature and Compositions exam and other college-level English and writing courses and meets the standards for the California State University system and the University of California system. All students are required to take the AP test in May. AP students will receive an additional grade point upon GPA calculation.

ENGLISH 4: ERWC - (Expository Reading and Writing Course)

This course is designed to prepare students for reading and writing in many contexts with particular emphasis on preparation for college. The course emphasizes reflection and revision as the primary means of improving writing. Readings include expository text similar to those students are commonly assigned in college with an emphasis on media literacy. This course meets the standards for the California State University system and the University of California system.

ENGLISH: MODES OF WRITING

Writing for Publication will meet the junior and senior Common Core Standards in reading, writing, listening, and speaking, but with an emphasis on the many forms of writing used in careers: memos, news articles, blogs, website, pamphlets, etc., while focusing on the professional standards of credibility, readability, and verve. Although open to all juniors and seniors for either year of English credit, students may only take Modes of Writing for English credit once in high school. Students are welcome to take Modes as an elective in addition to their regular English class.