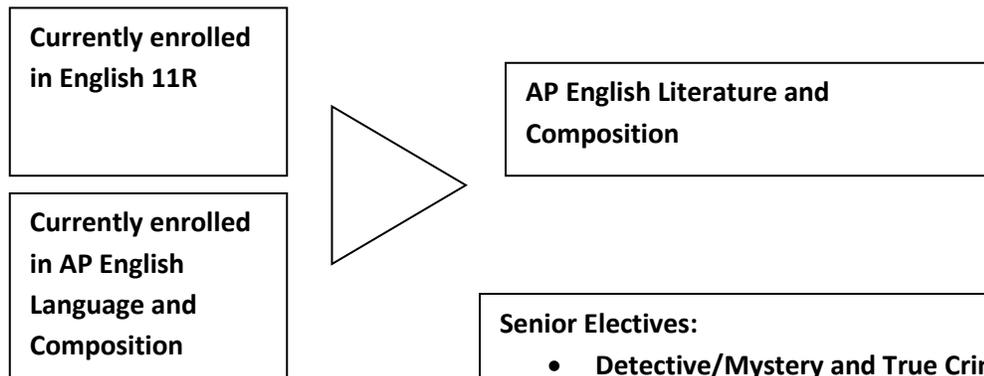
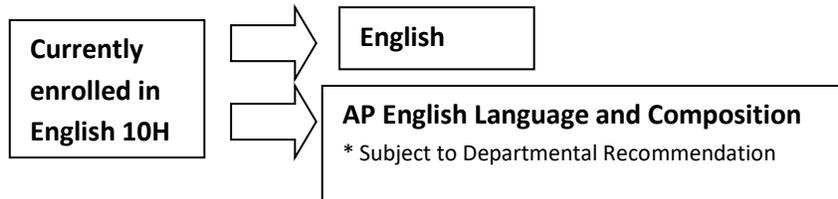
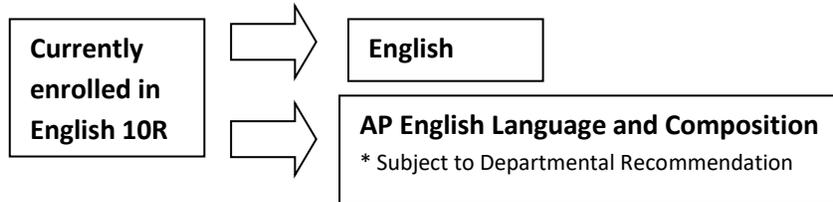
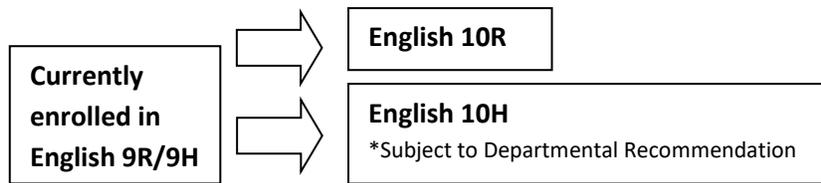


ENGLISH



- English Electives:**
- Creative Writing
 - Journalism
 - English 11 workshop

- Senior Electives:**
- Detective/Mystery and True Crime
 - Dystopian Literature
 - Graphic Literature
 - Literature of New York
 - Myths and Legends from Homer to Harry Potter
 - Plays and Playwriting
 - Short Story
 - The American Mythos: Baseball
 - Introduction to Poetry
 - College Life & Beyond: The Stages of Life through Literature

ENGLISH

The English Department offers a four-year program of comprehensive literature and composition courses. Students read widely in fiction and non-fiction, as well as in poetry and drama. Library and research skills are developed throughout the four years and students write literary research papers in grades 11 and 12. Extensive instruction and practice in composition are offered, and students meet regularly with their teachers to develop writing skills in all modes. Students may elect additional semester courses in creative writing in their junior and senior years and journalism in their sophomore, junior, and senior years.

Students have the opportunity to seek Honors or Advanced Placement study in any year of the high school program. In grades 10-12, placement is determined by essay examination and teacher recommendation.

A summer reading requirement for all students is distributed in mid-May.

REGENTS WRITING WORKSHOP/ENL

This course is specifically designed to enable students to spend a year mastering the literature and essay requirements for the English Regents exam. The class will meet on alternate days and will teach the fundamentals of English, assist in the comprehension of literature texts, and work on the basics of essay writing.

½ unit of credit

REGENTS WRITING WORKSHOP/SPECIAL EDUCATION

This course is specifically designed to enable special education students to master the skills required for the English Regents exam. The class will meet on alternate days and will be staffed with an English teacher and special education teacher both of whom will work on the tasks of the Regents exam as well as on the literature that the students will be expected to cover in their English classes. These skills include essay writing, reading comprehension, basic grammatical structure, and note taking, all required on the exam.

½ unit of credit

CREATIVE WRITING – Evening

This is an advanced writing course for 11th and 12th graders with excellent skills in expository writing, who wish to gain or to expand their experience in writing fiction, poetry, and literary non-fiction. Weekly and long-term reading assignments will also be designed to offer students an introduction to contemporary literature.

The course is conducted in a workshop format: all students are expected to submit their writing for critiques by their peers and to offer meaningful responses to the work of other members of the class. Writers will also be encouraged to submit work to contests and publications. This is an elective that does not replace any required English course, but may be used toward a five-year sequence.

½ unit of credit

Prerequisite: English 10

JOURNALISM – Evening

JOURNALISM 1

The course will allow students to explore the role of the news media (print, internet, radio, television, film and advertising) from its beginnings to its potential in our future. Students become familiar with the organization of news production, law and ethics, the history of the American newspaper and the role of journalism in American society, interviewing, reporting and editing. Students in the course will gain practical experience by producing articles for Guide Post, the school newspaper, and an individually designed newspaper.

1 unit of credit

No Prerequisite

JOURNALISM 2

The course builds on the information learned in Journalism 1 by introducing and developing skills in layout and design. Students will learn different types of design style (front page, inside page, and double page spread) using modular presentation. Students in the course will gain practical experience by creating the overall design of Guide Post. In addition, students will learn about using photos and illustrations and caption writing as an additional visually informative tool. Students will also be expected to execute an in-depth writing assignment.

1 unit of credit

Prerequisite: Journalism 1

JOURNALISM HONORS

Students in this course complete project assignments that include developing a staff manual, developing and executing team building activities for Guide Post, developing and leading training schedules, creating leadership plans, creating financial and advertising plans, and developing an online publication.

1 unit of credit

Prerequisite: Journalism 2

GRADE 9

NOTE: All grade 9 English and social studies classes are paired and scheduled to meet during consecutive periods. This permits flexible use of class time and grouping of students as well as creates opportunities for coordinated instruction.

ENGLISH 9 REGENTS

This is a comprehensive course in literature and composition with particular emphasis on expository writing and on analytical reading in all literary genres. English 9 Regents includes an intensive review of English grammar and usage as well as regular assignments in vocabulary development. Students will be expected to read extensively and independently, preparing works for class discussion as well as meeting supplementary outside reading requirements. Readings in drama will include at least one Shakespearean play. Students may expect opportunities to develop their skills in narrative, persuasive, and descriptive writing as well as to extend their ability to assert and argue effectively and to write topic sentences and thesis statements.

1 unit of credit

Prerequisite: English 8

ENGLISH 9 HONORS

English 9 Honors is not offered as a separate course. Students in 9 Regents have the opportunity to pursue honors level study and credit by achievement.

GRADE 10

A sophomore is required to register for one of the following full-year courses:

ENGLISH 10 - REGENTS

This Regents level course builds on the composition skills taught in ninth grade. Students may expect extensive practice in a variety of rhetorical modes and in developing the length and complexity of their essays. Students will also have opportunities to develop imaginative and personal writing. Clarity, variety in sentence structure, appropriate diction, and coherence are emphasized. The study of literature seeks to enhance students' appreciation of the complexity of human experience and includes significant works of drama, including at least one Shakespearean play, fiction, non-fiction, and poetry. Additional areas of study will include grammatical lessons and impromptu writing. As in all English courses, students in English 10 will have assignments in vocabulary development, lessons in standard English usage, and outside reading assignments.

1 unit of credit

Prerequisite: English 9

ENGLISH 10 HONORS

This course is designed for those students who have demonstrated exceptional proficiency and interest in literature and composition. The honors level course is for students who take genuine pleasure in reading extensively literary works of variety and challenge and whose writing shows exceptional clarity and maturity of expression. Honors students must be able to work and grow in a highly competitive atmosphere. Honors placement is determined by essay examination and teacher recommendation.

1 unit of credit

Prerequisite: English 9 Regents and department permission.

GRADE 11

A junior is required to register for one of the following year-long courses:

ENGLISH 11 - REGENTS

The junior year offers students the opportunity to bring their literary and composition skills to a mature, college preparatory level. The literature studied is primarily American and is selected to develop awareness and an appreciation of structures, styles, and themes characteristic of American literature. This reading may be enriched by inclusion of appropriate works of British or European writers. Our goal is to help students develop sound and mature critical standards. Student writing is expected to show evidence of logical reasoning, sound analysis, and

competent interpretation. English 11 Regents offers regular, intensive instruction in standard English usage and in vocabulary development. At the end of the year, students take the Regents Examination in English Language Arts.

1 unit of credit

Prerequisite: English 10

ADVANCED PLACEMENT ENGLISH/LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION (ENGLISH 11 HONORS)

This course both parallels and intensifies the 11 Regents program and prepares for the AP Language and Composition Exam, which is required. Students in this course demonstrate exceptional maturity of literary insight and compositional skill, as well as a commitment to explore great literature and writing.

This course offers honors level study of literature as well as the AP language program, which engages students in becoming skilled readers of prose written in a variety of periods, disciplines and rhetorical contexts. Students will have opportunities to write in a variety of forms – narrative, exploratory, expository – as well as to develop skills in formal and informal argument.

1 unit of credit

Prerequisite: English 10 Regents and department permission.

Those not receiving a recommendation will be required to meet with the counselor, department head, and parents to ensure full awareness of the high level of commitment and skill required to succeed in AP English.

GRADE 12

ADVANCED PLACEMENT ENGLISH LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION (ENGLISH 12 HONORS)

AP Literature and Composition is a college-level course designed for students who have demonstrated mature understanding and superior ability to express insights, concepts, and themes in literature; who take pleasure in reading, discussing, and writing about literature; and who have demonstrated their critical thinking skills in class discussion and in writing.

You must plan to devote a minimum of eight hours per week outside of class to prepare reading and writing assignments within required deadlines. Class discussion will stress comprehension and interpretation and require accurate recall with ability to make cogent references to a particular text. The AP English student must be a thoughtful and mature contributor to these discussions.

The AP Exam in Literature and Composition is required of all students. In addition, a college level research paper on a major literary figure or work(s) is required. You will also submit a number of critical papers throughout the year.

1 unit of credit

Prerequisite: English 11 Regents and department recommendation.

Those not receiving the department recommendation will be required to meet with counselor, department head, and parents to ensure full awareness of the high level of commitment and skill required to succeed in AP English.

DETECTIVE, MYSTERY, AND TRUE CRIME- ENGLISH 12 SEMESTER COURSE

The class will begin with a unit exploring the key attributes of detective or mystery fiction, and then examine a sampling of works in the genre. Students will analyze the characterization of detectives, suspects, and criminals, and consider the author's plotting, building of tension, and inclusion of clues. The course will include two units: Detective and Mystery Fiction, and True Crime. Throughout the coursework, students will be engaged in hands-on projects including a murder-mystery event, creating their own short works, podcasting, etc.

½ unit of credit

DYSTOPIAN LITERATURE- ENGLISH 12 SEMESTER COURSE

For centuries, authors have created works of literature, prophetic and otherwise, about the state of the world. In this exploration of dystopian literature, students will read texts that function to expound on topics such as surveillance, mob mentality, social equality, government control, and reliance on technology. Students will analyze the various warnings each author presents and seek to understand and evaluate each author's message/prophesy. The course will engage students through various mediums including short stories poems, novels and films. An additional goal of the coursework is for students to leave the classroom with not only an increased knowledge of great literature, but also a heightened awareness of the impactful roles they might play in our world. One of the final projects will allow students to reflect on today's society and craft their own dystopian work.

½ unit of credit

LITERATURE OF NEW YORK- ENGLISH 12 SEMESTER COURSE

In this class, students will explore a variety of literature and media born in New York City and its boroughs. After considering the diverse history and culture of the city, the class will focus on both authors who grew up in the city as well as authors whose perspectives of New York are as foreigners. Students will study literature from multiple New York perspectives. Over the course of the semester, students will study fiction, nonfiction, and media driven by the backdrop of the bustling Big Apple.

½ unit of credit

MYTHS AND LEGENDS—ENGLISH 12 SEMESTER COURSE

In this class, students will explore the importance of myth and legend as a vehicle for expressing various cultures' histories and values. The course commences with a study of oral storytelling and the evolution of myth and legend. The class will then read and discuss creation myths from a variety of word cultures, and even write their own creation myth explaining a particular natural phenomenon or human behavior. Students will also spend time studying Joseph Campbell's hero journey and use his comparative research (Monomyth ideology) to analyze and understand classic and modern stories as well as films.

½ unit of credit

GRAPHIC LITERATURE – ENGLISH 12 SEMESTER COURSE

This half-year course will focus on alternate modes of storytelling, in both fiction and non-fiction, through the use of short and full-length graphic texts. This is a course for students with a strong interest in creative storytelling. Students will learn techniques in both fiction and non-fiction storytelling, using combinations of texts and images, while examining superheroes through a variety of lenses: literary, pop culture, historical, cultural, visual design, and multi-media. Students will analyze and evaluate professional works and student-centered works, culminating in the development of their own comic book script.

½ unit of credit

PLAYS AND PLAYWRITING–ENGLISH 12 SEMESTER COURSE

Students will read a variety of one act and full-length plays, as well as the popular subgenre of 10-minute plays during the semester in order to explore the benefits of this particular genre. The class will begin with the genre's origins in ancient Greece and move through its evolution in the present. The groups will learn to analyze a script and focus on character motivation, intent, and conflict. Students will be given a chance to perform dramatic reading of the works as well as act out plays. All of the students' work will culminate with the students creating and performing their own One Act plays. Students will explore through text-based analysis, readings, performances, and creative writing.

½ unit of credit

SHORT STORY – ENGLISH 12 SEMESTER COURSE

This course will examine the genre of the American short story. The course will explore its historical origins, the developing versions of written forms, its mode of brevity and compression, and its range of styles: realism, regionalism, modernism, allegory, postmodernism, and more. Students will analyze what defines a short story and what strategies authors use to reinforce larger themes in a short story collection. Additionally, we will see how diverse the American experience is represented through the form. Throughout the course, students will primarily read and analyze short stories both independently and in group projects and read excerpted theory on the short story form. Students will also practice writing short stories of their own.

½ unit of credit

THE AMERICAN MYTHOS: BASEBALL – ENGLISH 12 SEMESTER COURSE

Nothing captures the American imagination quite like baseball, and it is the sport featured most in books, movies, and the American mythos. While its popularity may have waned as a spectator sport, nothing has dimmed our fascination with it. What is it about baseball that captures who we are as a country? Is it that each game could conceivably never end, offering possibility in the direst of circumstances? Is it that its heroes come from all walks of life, making it a truly egalitarian game? Is it that it has walked with us through most of our country's history? These questions and others will be explored through short stories, novels, movies, and columns.

½ unit of credit

INTRO TO POETRY– ENGLISH 12 SEMESTER COURSE

This course incorporates the study of poetry with the writing of poetry. We'll begin with some contemporary writers, to explore rhythm, rhyme, and form—particularly those from several of America's most celebrated voices. We'll jump back in time to study poetry from the 19th century, and we'll ultimately close with a unit on spoken word. Along the way, we'll study poets ranging from Elizabeth Bishop to Langston Hughes, and we'll also look closely at two full books by Anne Sexton and John Berryman. Poems will also be paired with music and art. Perhaps most importantly, we'll grow to become a community of writers that celebrate each other's poetic voices.

½ unit of credit

COLLEGE LIFE AND BEYOND: THE STAGES OF LIFE THROUGH LITERATURE – ENGLISH 12 SEMESTER COURSE

This course will explore the future through literature, beginning with the stages of life leading to college or employment, then the period of time dedicated to college/first full-time job/military, then independence, then the responsibilities and difficulties of life's many forks in the road. Students will begin by examining college essays and resumes before transitioning to topics on the college experience, then onto literature about the real-life thrills, challenges, and questions—professions, parenting, family, fulfillment—that we consider as we grow older, pave our own path, and ponder what it means to get a life. The course will feature a blend of novels, short stories, current events, poetry, and film.

½ unit of credit