

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT ELECTIVES

0601 Debate (9 weeks, .5 credit)

Debate is designed to teach methods of logical thinking, argumentation, and formal debating procedures and skills. Students will learn the fundamentals of debate and will participate in several formal debates. Debate provides training in research, rhetoric, language skills, oratory, reasoning, politics, and philosophy. This course is especially useful for students planning a career in law, government, or business.

Note: Debate may be taken more than once for elective credit with teacher approval.

0662 Journalism (9 weeks, .5 credit)

Journalism is designed to teach techniques of journalistic writing as found in the news story, the editorial, the feature story, the interview, and the sports story. Students will write these types of articles and will study examples found in various newspapers. The course includes copy reading and proofreading, headline composition, page makeup, and word processing. Independent effort is demanded of Journalism students. Interviews must often be conducted and articles researched and rewritten outside of class time.

Note: Journalism may be taken more than once for elective credit with teacher approval.

0668 Theater: Acting Workshop (9 weeks, .5 credit)

Theater: Acting Workshop introduces students to the art of acting in a workshop environment. Students will participate in various body, voice, movement, and improvisation exercises during class time. Reading, memorizing, critiquing and reflecting are all required components of the course. Various readings will introduce students to different methods of acting, which students will then apply as they rehearse and present scenes to the class. These scenes will be critiqued by the instructor as well as by students in the class.

Note: Theater may be taken more than once for elective credit with teacher approval.

0661 SAT/ACT Preparation: Vocabulary, Reading Comprehension and Analysis, and Written Expression (9 weeks, .5 credit)

This SAT Preparation course is designed to improve a student's skills in vocabulary, reading comprehension, reading analysis, essay writing, and grammar/conventions. This course presents students with the opportunity to prepare for the new SAT, which includes a significant written expression component — an essay as well as writing-based multiple choice questions. The course also helps students sharpen their test-taking skills.

0665 Creative Writing (9 weeks, .5 credit)

Creative Writing is designed to provide students with an opportunity to work with a variety of creative forms: short stories, poems, reviews, essays, and one-act plays. To stimulate personal awareness and creative potential, use of a writer's journal will be established. Students are expected to produce a collection of original works.

Note: Creative Writing may be taken more than once for elective credit with teacher approval.

0673 Introduction to Film Studies (9 weeks, .5 credit)

Introduction to Film Studies offers students the opportunity to develop visual literacy and analytical skills through the close examination of significant filmic texts. Students will learn the language and essential techniques of film (shot composition, camera angles, editing, etc.) in order to appreciate and explore the form's unique expressive abilities. This information will be combined with more familiar literary concepts (imagery, setting, symbolism, theme, etc.) to analyze the ways in which cinema is both similar to and different from written texts.

0672 Science Fiction (9 weeks, .5 credit)

This course will provide students with a survey of major novels, short stories, and poems by the masters of science fiction. These readings will form the basis for a thoughtful look at the future.

0660 Becoming a Better Writer (9 weeks, .5 credit)

This course is designed to help students analyze writing tasks and make critical decisions based on purpose concerning pre-writing, drafting, revisions, and editing. Students will be able to write well-developed essays in basic modalities, such as timed writing, informational writing, evaluative writing, persuasive writing, and analytic writing. Students will also be able to practice and apply a wide range of writing strategies to be used in the understanding and development of a personal writing process.

9568 Yearbook Production (9 weeks, 1 credit)

This course is designed to provide yearbook staff with instruction in the various phases of yearbook production: yearbook journalism, layout and design, digital imaging, business management, advertising, and public relations. Students in this course design and produce the school's yearbook.

0674 Media Production 1 (9 weeks, .5 credit)

Students will learn the basics of video production and how to effectively communicate a message via video. These fundamentals include pre-production skills, which include researching, writing scripts, and storyboarding; production skills, which include operating video and audio equipment, single and multi-camera production, lighting, and various crew positions; and post-production skills, which include editing and audio mixing.

0675 Media Production 2 (9 weeks, .5 credit)

This intermediate course further explores digital video production, concentrating on the role of the producer, writer, and director, and on advanced production and post-production techniques.

0676 Media Production 3 (9 weeks, .5 credit)

Students demonstrating high levels of communication and production skills, motivation, and ability to work independently will produce real-world products.

0678 Media Production Practicum (9 weeks A/B, .25 credit)

This course is designated for juniors and seniors interested in pursuing a career in communications, advertising, television, or film.

ENGLISH CORES

Grade 10 English

0000 Honors English 10
0020 Academic English 10
(18 weeks, 1 credit)

The English 10 course focuses on analysis of text. Students will examine author's craft and the use of various literary devices across literary genres. Students will analyze how writers use style, tone, and voice to communicate an idea. Students will focus on close reading strategies in various genres to understand what tools authors use to achieve their purposes. They will examine tone and theme statements. They will learn about how different genres achieve the same purpose with a different toolbox. They will understand the conventions of reading various genres, the differences between genres, and the characteristics of different genres. They will be introduced to rhetorical analysis and literary analysis.

The course of study includes variations in materials, tasks, and assessments for each level of the class. Students in the Honors course are expected to be avid readers and sophisticated writers. In this course, students will encounter challenging texts, discussions, and writing.

Note: An instructional fee will be charged to students who wish to purchase the vocabulary book.

Honors weighted-grade course for 0000.

Grade 11 English

0100 Honors English 11
0120 Academic English 11
(18 weeks, 1 credit)

The English 11 course is designed to equip students with the knowledge and skills to listen carefully, to evaluate arguments, to discern tone, and to analyze and implement rhetorical strategies in writing. They will read text that is selected to showcase the techniques that lead to an author's overall purpose. Students will understand that authors make stylistic choices and employ rhetorical and literary techniques based on their intentions, their subject, and their audience. Students will also craft their own writing to analyze rhetoric and to synthesize information into a cogent argument. Students will develop a unique writing voice, create sound and logical arguments, and be able to justify their stylistic and rhetorical choices.

The course of study includes variations in materials, tasks, and assessments for each level of the class. Students in the Honors course are expected to be avid readers and sophisticated writers. Students will encounter challenging texts, discussions, and writing.

Honors weighted-grade course for 0100.

Grade 11 (continued)

0110 Advanced Placement English Language & Composition
(18 weeks, 1 credit)

Students will become skilled readers of prose written in a variety of periods, disciplines, and rhetorical contexts. They will produce expository, analytical, and argumentative essays that introduce a complex central idea and develop that idea with appropriate evidence drawn from primary and secondary sources, cogent explanations, and clear transitions.

A summer reading/writing assignment is required and must be completed before the start of the course.

Students taking this course should plan to take the Advanced Placement English Language Test given in May. AP weighted-grade course.

Prerequisites: B grade or better in English 10 or recommendation of 10th grade English teacher.

Grade 12 English

0210 Honors English 12
0220 Academic English 12
(18 weeks, 1 credit)

Students will learn the value of literary analysis skills. Students will examine how literature mimics the human experience across different perspectives, societies, and time periods. Students will examine the interrelationships that exist between text, self, and world. Students will gain a deep understanding of the connection between text and the human experience that justifies literature as a unique and important tool for examining and understanding humanity. The course of study includes variations in materials, tasks, and assessments for each level of the class. Students in the Honors course are expected to be avid readers and sophisticated writers. Students will encounter challenging texts, discussions, and writing.

Honors weighted-grade course for 0210.

0200 Advanced Placement English Literature & Composition
(27 weeks, 1.5 credits)

Students will learn how to read literature perceptively and how to express responses to it. Students will study a representative sampling of works from several genres and literary periods. Students will learn to respond to language with increasing sensitivity and discrimination.

A summer reading/writing assignment is required and must be completed before the start of the course. Students taking this course should plan to take the Advanced Placement English Test given in May.

AP weighted-grade course.

Prerequisites: B grade or better in English 11 or recommendation of English teacher.