

UPPER SCHOOL COURSES

English Department Course Descriptions

English 9 (1.0 Credits)

This is a foundational course which gives students an introduction to various forms of literature. It is designed to guide students towards a more comfortable level of engagement with the world of ideas that literature inspires and to bolster their burgeoning writing skills. Students read and write in a variety of genres for a variety of purposes. Emphasis in composition is on literary analysis, narrative non-fiction and persuasive essays however, students will also write short creative pieces and poetry. Vocabulary is developed through contextual literary studies.

Complete Novel Lists will be available when course syllabus are released in August.

English 10 (1.0 Credits) *American Literature*

This course will continue to develop students' skills in reading and writing and will expand on the work done in the ninth grade course. Students will read and analyze increasingly more complex texts. Texts will come from inside and outside of the traditional American canon as students explore the notion of "America" and the American experience.

Complete Novel Lists will be available when course syllabus are released in August.

English 10H (Pre-AP) (1.0 Credits)

The curriculum will follow College Board recommendations and will prepare students for the very sophisticated work of the Advanced Placement classes. PreAP English spotlights the recursive moves that matter in preparing students for the rigors of college-level reading and writing. While English 9 introduces the foundational routines of close observation, critical analysis, and appreciation of author's craft, PreAP English requires students to apply those same practices to a new host of complex texts—the types of texts they will soon encounter in AP English courses, college classes, and on the ACT/SAT.

Complete Novel Lists will be available when course syllabus are released in August.

English 11 (1.0 Credits) *World Literature*

This course will continue to develop students' skills in reading and writing focusing on developing more complex and sophisticated arguments. Students will read and analyze increasingly more complex texts. This course will focus on works of literature and nonfiction voices from around the world. Students will read from a variety of genres and write in a variety of modes while continuing to build skills developed in the lower grades.

Complete Novel Lists will be available when course syllabus are released in August.

AP Language and Composition (1.0 Credits)

This course focuses on nonfiction: expository and discursive prose. Students read in a number of expository sub-genres; they write in a variety of rhetorical modes for a variety of audiences and purposes. In particular, they work on rhetorical analysis, argument, and persuasion. Students also complete a lengthy sourced paper in the third quarter. In addition, they learn to analyze various non-literary and graphic texts (like films, video, animation, cartoons, charts) as rhetorical objects.

There is no print text for this course. Students will use Macs to access digital readings and there will be handouts.

English 12H (1.0 Credits)

This course is a direct preparation for the typical first-year composition courses that students will take in college. It is generally divided into two parts: Composition and Composition with Literature. Composition sections emphasize the use of rhetorical modes in composing expository/discursive writing. Assignments ask students to write based on models and compose for specific audiences and purposes. Composition with Literature sections emphasize analysis of literature (short fiction, one novel, one long play, poetry), both in terms of formal analysis and social/historical/cultural analysis.

Complete Text Lists will be available when course syllabus are released in August.

AP Literature and Composition (1.0 Credits)

The curriculum will follow the College Board recommendations and in this course, students will build upon reading done in previous English classes and through close, deliberate reading of texts expand their understanding of literature by learning to look at texts through critical lenses and by placing texts within appropriate historical, social and cultural contexts. Toward that aim, we will read, dissect and enjoy several works of fiction and poetry along with a few pieces of nonfiction.

Complete Text Lists will be available when course syllabus are released in August.