English Language Arts (ELA)

Melissa Lynn Pomerantz

Department Leader

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English Language Arts

Required English Language Arts Credits: 4.0 credits

SUGGESTED PROGRAM OF STUDY 9TH-11TH GRADES

9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade
English 1	English 2	English 3
OR	OR	OR
Honors English 1*	Honors English 2*	AP Language & Composition

Note: Honors Courses MAY require summer assignments—letter can be obtained from your guidance counselor, your English teacher, or the school webpage.

All students need 4 credits of English to graduate.

All students need English 1, English 2, and English 3 (or honors equivalent).

Upper grade levels have more choices in their English options.

Students may wish to double up on English, taking both an elective and a core course at the same time.

New English Elective for 9th-10th Grade

READING LITERATURE FOR PERSONAL ENRICHMENT

057590

Duration: Semester Grades: 9-10 Credit: .5 English
Prerequisite: Freshman or sophomore standing only; must be taken concurrently with English 1 or 2

This course provides all students the opportunity to read, enjoy, and share ideas about books of their choice. Students will choose books for their reading level and complete post-reading comprehension questionnaires. A student's reading comprehension will be tracked throughout the semester. Sixty percent of class time will be reserved for individual reading; the remaining 40% will be used for enrichment writing and discussion of ideas in the works, whereby students can practice written response skills as well as small group discussion skills. The vision for this course is to develop the confidence and desire to make reading a life-long habit.



SUGGESTED PROGRAM OF STUDY 12TH GRADE

	Core Courses	Honors Courses	English Electives (English credit offered)
Semester 1	English 4A	AP Literature and Composition	Creative Writing Comparative Mythology* Creative Writing Nonfiction (must be enrolled in upper level journalism class) Film and Composition Intro to College Writing Poetics of Hip Hop
Semester 2	English 4B	AP Literature and Composition	Creative Writing Comparative Mythology Creative Writing Nonfiction (must be enrolled in upper level journalism class) Film and Composition Intro to College Writing Poetics of Hip Hop

Note: Not all elective classes may be offered both semesters. You may not choose which semester you enroll in the course. *Comparative Mythology MAY also be offered virtually.

Many choices for the 4th Credit of English

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS ELECTIVES

	9 th	10 th	11 th	12 th
Creative Writing 1	.755		X+	X
Poetics of Hip Hop			X+	Х
Comparative Mythology			X+	Х
Creative Writing Nonfiction (must be enrolled in upper level journalism class)			X+	Х
Film and Composition			X+	Х
Introduction to College Writing (needs recommendation from department)				Х
Reading Literature for Personal Enrichment	X+	X+		

[◆] Must be concurrently enrolled in English 1 in 9th grade, English 2 in 10th grade, or English 3 in 11th grade.

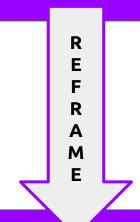
What other classes can I take?

Should I take Honors English?

Honors English 1 Recommended Criterion				
Student desire	students should want to be in the Honors English 1 class (indicated by student survey)			
High School ELA Readiness Profile (listed below)	students should see themselves as more aligned with the Honors Student Profile (describe below)			
Middle School Letter Grades in English classes	typically an A- or higher is recommended			
Academic Responsibility Grades	typically a 3 in each category is recommended			
Writing Skills	typically students who exceed expectations on most writing assignments are recommended			
Scholastic Reading Inventory (SRI) Score	typically a 1200 or higher is recommended			

English 1 Readiness		Honors English 1 Readiness
I am a strong reader and writer	۵	I am passionate about reading and writing.
I am diligent and hard-working.		I am self-motivated and have a strong work ethic.
I enjoy challenges, but may need help with complex problems and critical thinking.		I master rigorous concepts quickly .
I enjoy challenges, but may need help with complex problems and critical thinking.		I love challenges. I can solve complex problems and often think more critically than I'm asked to.
I prefer to have a strategy modeled so I can learn it and apply it to new problems or situations.		I prefer to ask questions and figure out the best strategy or theory behind a concept on my own .
I am comfortable sharing ideas and having discussions with my classmates.		I am comfortable having my ideas discussed and challenged by my classmates.
I like to analyze different forms of communication, and learn how to apply new ideas to my own writing, reading, and speaking.		I love to think critically about what I read, see, and hear, have thought provoking discussions, and discover ways to apply what I learn to my own academic work.

Academic Struggle



Opportunity for Learning

Strong Background Knowledge

Reading

- Comprehend & analyze of grade-level texts
- Has comfort with fiction, nonfiction, and poetry
- Has strategies to decipher difficult texts

Speaking

- Support perspectives & judgments with convincing evidence
- Deliver presentations
- Add to discussion without prompting, building on or respectfully refuting classmates' ideas

Writing

- Write a process paper (multi-paragraph)
- Develop main ideas with supporting evidence

Grammar conventions

between ideas

- Use varied sentence types
- Use subordination, coordination, apposition to indicate relationship
- Use correct punctuation, spelling and capitalization

Why should I take Honors?

- Exposure to more reading and writing opportunities.
- Faster paced curriculum
- Preparation for rigorous college material.

But what if I get a B?

- Learning vs. Grades
- Challenges for self and future

How many honors classes should I take?

- Different for every student
- Other commitments?
- Tolerance for stress?
- Passion for learning? For subject?
- Long term goals?

How much work should I expect?

- Regular English Classes
 - 20-40 minutes per class period
 - 15-30 pages of reading per assignment
- Honors/AP English Classes
 - 30-60 minutes per class period
 - 25-50 pages of reading per assignment

Is there required summer work?

- We hope all students will read widely.
- Each class is different, but there has been some summer requirement for honors classes--we'll see.

Summer work is not to be a punishment, but what allows honors classes to hit the ground running from day 1.

What if I need help?

- Meet with teacher during lab or make an appointment before or after school
- Work with National Honors Society Tutors
- By recommendation: Intervention classes

Can I move back into honors if I leave?

- Difficult, but possible--earlier the better
- AP is more difficult to come in at semester and NOT recommended

When do I get to take all of the cool classes?

- Each year there are more elective possibilities
- Most electives are semester courses, so you can add on easily
- Choose electives that interest you--they all earn English credit and the all focus on the the four main ELA components: reading, writing, speaking, listening

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