ADVANCED PLACEMENT ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION (A)
Length: Two Semesters
Grades: 11, 12
The Advanced Placement English Language and Composition course serves as an introduction to the equivalent of the freshman college course in composition and/or rhetoric. AP Language and Composition is a college level course which requires students to complete written assignments representative of higher levels of synthesis of non-fiction material, including graphics and other visual forms through the study of American Literature. The course offers additional instruction in argumentation and teaches the skills of synthesizing, summarizing, paraphrasing, quoting, and citing secondary source material. Students choosing Advanced Placement English Language and Composition should be interested in studying and writing various kinds of analytic and persuasive essays on a variety of topics. Students are expected to take the AP exam in the second semester.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT ENGLISH LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION (A)
Length: Two Semesters
Grade: 12
This course is subject to a consumable fee.
The Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition course is designed to engage students in the careful reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature. Through the close reading of selected texts, students can deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their readers. The course requires intensive study of representative works from various genres and periods, concentrating on works of recognized literary merit.

Writing is also an integral part of the Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition course, for the Advanced Placement Examination is weighted toward student writing about literature. Writing assignments focus on the critical analysis of literature and include expository, analytical, and argumentative essays.
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**Applications in Writing (I)**

*Length: One Semester*

*Grade: 12*

Applications in Writing is designed to meet the needs of those students who struggle with writing; it has as its goal improved writing techniques and skills. Students who select this course are most likely junior college or workplace bound and need more direct instruction in skills, grammar, and organization. The goals of this course include improved grammar and vocabulary, reinforced organizational strategies in writing and experience in workplace writing including the creation of a portfolio. This course may be taken as a final culminating writing course or may be taken as a preparation for Senior Rhetoric.

**Argumentation (I, A)**

*Length: One Semester*

*Grades: 11, 12*

*Prerequisite: Freshman English and Sophomore English*

*Qualifies for: Communication Studies Credit*

Argumentation focuses on the theoretical as well as practical concepts of human communication in a cooperative/competitive environment. Through the oral experiences of problem solving in-group discussion, persuasion in an audience, and argumentation in a variety of formats, the student will have the opportunity to develop the higher processes of oral communication. The emphasis on research and thinking and listening skills will accentuate the quality of mental cooperation and clash through the oral tasks of the course.

**British Literature (I)**

*Length: One Semester*

*Grades: 11, 12*

British Literature is designed to study the literature of Britain. Representative examples of drama, poetry, essays, and novels will be studied. Through class discussions, close reading of literature, and a variety of writing experiences, the student will learn the tools of critical analysis in order to make logical, analytical conclusions about a piece of literature.

**Creative Writing (I)**

*Length: One Semester*

*Grades: 11, 12*

*Qualifies for: Fine Arts Credit or English Elective Credit*

Creative Writing is designed to provide a suitable climate for students interested in exploring writing forms and structures that include short story, poetry, lyrics, nonfiction prose, drama, and other forms of fiction. Instruction includes an examination of the techniques used by creative writers and the evaluation of student writing.
ENGLISH PROGRAM 2014-2015

DRAMA (I)
Length: One Semester
Grades: 10, 11, 12
Qualifies for: Fine Arts Credit or English Elective Credit
Drama is an exploration of the dramatic form in literature and stage. Topics include dramatic vocabulary, the techniques of performance, development of an appreciative understanding of dramatic literature, and the history of drama. Examples of dramatic literary forms will be presented for analysis. Techniques of directing these various forms will be included. Techniques of performance and character development will be part of the student involvement.

FRESHMAN ENGLISH (I, A)
Length: Two Semesters
Grade: 9
This course is subject to a consumable fee.
Freshman English is a one-year course integrating the study of language and communication. A variety of literature is explored by genre: short story, poetry, novel, drama, and nonfiction. Writing assignments include journaling, formal essays (expository, persuasive, narrative), and creative writing. Outcomes for freshman year focus on specific skills in reading and interpreting literature; writing a variety of clear, well-constructed compositions; thinking critically and creatively; managing information and technology; organizing time and study skills; speaking and listening; and personal skills.

ACTING (I)
Length: One Semester
Grades: 10, 11, 12
Qualifies for: Fine Arts Credit or Communication Studies Credit
Introduction to Acting is designed to help students improve character analysis skills, understand themselves as a performer, and improve their acting and improvisational skills. Students will study different styles of acting and apply those styles to their performances. Students will be assessed by their research, effort, and performance of monologues, soliloquies, duet performances, and group performance projects. Body movement will reinforce these skills and vocal exercises along with improvisational activities.

JOURNALISM (I)
Length: One Semester
Grades: 11, 12
Journalism is concerned with five basic areas of journalism: the mass media and the newspaper’s role, parts of the newspaper, writing newspaper stories, newspaper staff organization, and newspaper production. The course is designed for the student interested in newspaper reporting. The student becomes informed about the various branches of the mass media and continues to learn the basics of journalism through actual news assignments for the school paper.

JUNIOR ENGLISH (I, A)
Length: Two Semesters
Grade: 11
This course is subject to a consumable fee.
Junior English integrates advanced principles of composition with the study of American literature. Various writing experiences are included, with special emphasis on literary analysis and research. The study of American literature exposes the student to fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and drama. Both semesters include the reading of texts by American writers of diverse backgrounds.

LITERACY SKILLS (I)
Length: One Semester
Grades: 12
Literacy Skills offers students the opportunity to sharpen the reading and writing skills necessary to meet the challenges of the post secondary experience. This course offers skill-intensive instruction to gain proficiency in the areas of independently selected modern and classic novels, numerous creative structured and informal writings, grammar review, vocabulary enhancement, reading strategies for a variety of texts and genres, and research skills.
POETRY (I)
Length: One Semester
Grades: 11, 12
Students in this contemporary poetry course will study poetry of the last fifty years from song lyrics to poems being written and published today. They will investigate and discuss themes, trends, styles, devices, voices, and methods of presentation. Throughout the course, students will discuss, write about, and present poems to various audiences. Note: this is a literature class. The focus is on the study of poetry rather than the writing of poetry.

POPULAR LITERATURE (I)
Length: One Semester
Grade: 12
Popular Literature is designed to provide senior students with an opportunity to explore personal preferences in reading in order to broaden students’ reading experiences and skills as well as encourage life-long reading habits. The emphasis in this class will be to explore a variety of genre. This class is appropriate for students who want to grow as readers and who are capable of independently motivating themselves to succeed.

ACADEMIC READING (I)
Length: Multiple Semesters
Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12
Reading Lab is intended for students who seek to improve all levels of reading performance. Reading skills are assessed and individualized reading interventions are designed for the purpose of improving reading skills for success in high school and increasing interest in reading for lifelong learning.

SENIOR RHETORIC (I)
Length: One Semester
Grade: 12
Senior Rhetoric is an elective course in writing for seniors who are planning to go to college. It is designed as a final course in writing for seniors in order to give them additional preparation for the level of writing that colleges require. The course covers four areas: early problems of writer’s stance and outline, grammar/application, seven strategies for developing themes and writing better themes, and handling specific assignments such as writing a persuasive argument, the literary paper, and the research paper. Each student will write a number of carefully prepared themes with necessary revisions as suggested by the instructor, two in-class themes, and a final research paper.

SOPHOMORE ENGLISH (I, A)
Length: Two Semesters
Grade: 10
This course is subject to a consumable fee.
Sophomore English takes a thematic approach to the study of literature, writing, thinking, and speaking. Through the exploration of the various broad and transcendent themes, students learn to analyze fiction and nonfiction; compose clear and well-organized expository, narrative, persuasive, and creative pieces of writing; work cooperatively in groups; use available technology effectively; and think critically and creatively. This course builds on the skills and concepts introduced in Freshman English.

STRUCTURE OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE (I)
Length: One Semester
Grades: 11, 12
Structure of the English Language is a grammar course designed to teach concepts of English words, sentences, syntax, structure, and composition. The course includes drill and practice in spelling, vocabulary, grammar, and practical applications to punctuation, capitalization, and other mechanical skills.
SURVEY OF MODERN LITERATURE (I)
Length: One Semester
Grades: 11, 12
Survey of Modern Literature is an English elective on the junior/senior level that introduces students to a wide selection of modern authors through modern novels, short stories, and drama. The general goal of the course is to develop knowledge and understanding of modern literature in its varying themes so that the students may increase their range of ideas, their sensitivity to themselves and others, and their ability to enjoy modern literature. Selected works may include mature themes and language.

THEMES IN LITERATURE:
AFRICAN AMERICAN LITERATURE (I)
Length: One Semester
Grades: 11, 12
Students will experience the tapestry of African-American poetry, fiction, non-fiction, film, and song spanning the past 150 years. Coursework will include oral discussion, group and individual work, and a variety of written assignments. The subject matter of some readings requires a mature level of thought, discussion, and awareness.

THEMES IN LITERATURE:
THE PLAY AS LITERATURE (I)
Length: One Semester
Grades: 11, 12
This course is designed to introduce students to accessible dramatic literature. The course will explore topics such as dramatic vocabulary, dramatic form and function, and the history of drama. Techniques of directing, performance, and character development will also be explored through the reading of a variety of plays in class. This course is suitable for students interested in drama and also students who might not like to read novels and other fictional forms outside of class.

THEMES IN LITERATURE:
THE BIBLE AS LITERATURE (I)
Length: One Semester
Grades: 11, 12
The Bible has had a significant influence on Western literature. Knowledge of the literature and themes found in the Bible enhances one's appreciation and understanding of literature. In this course, students examine the Bible as literature and how its themes and stories have been used by authors over the centuries.