

LANGUAGE ARTS DEPARTMENT COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

[Link to Standards](#) - Measure used to ensure completion of course objectives. **N**- NCAA approved courses

Course Title	Credit	Grade Level				Prerequisite
		9	10	11	12	
English 9 N	1					None
English 9T N	1					None
Honors English 9 N	1					None
English 10 N	1					English 9 or Honors 9
English 10T N	1					English 9
Honors English 10 N	1					English 9 or Honors 9
American Literature N	0.5					English 9/10 or Honors 9/10
British Literature N	0.5					English 9/10 or Honors 9/ 10
Contemporary World Literature N	0.5					English 9/10 or Honors 9/ 10
Multicultural Literature N	0.5					English 9/10 or Honors 9/10
Contemporary World LiteratureT N	0.5					English 9/10 or Honors 9/ 10
Composition N	0.5					English 9/10 or Honors 9/ 10
Composition T N	0.5					English 9/10 or Honors 9/ 10
Grammar Writing (ENG:105) N	1					English 9/10 or Honors 9/ 10
Fiction Writing N	0.5					English 9/10 or Honors 9/10
Heroism in Literature N	0.5					None
Newspaper Writing N	0.5					English 9 or Teacher Approval
Mass Media and Culture	0.5					English 9/10 or Honors 9/10
Popular Adult Literature N	0.5					English 9/10 or Honors 9/10
Yearbook/Newspaper	1					Newspaper Writing
Interpersonal Communication	0.5					None
AP Eng. Lit.(LIT101/ENG106) N	1					Am., Brit., OR Cont.Lit. AND GrammarWriting (ENG: 105)
Debate N	0.5					English 9/10 or Honors 9/10
Speech N	0.5					English 9/10 or Honors 9/10
SPC:112 Public Speaking N	0.5					English 9/10 or Honors 9/10
Fundamentals of Acting	0.5					None
Advanced Acting	0.5					Fundamentals of Acting or Teacher Approval

Mystery & Suspense in Literature & Film N	0.5					English 9/10 or Honors English 9/10
Advanced Journalism N	0.5					English 9/10 or Honors English 9/10

Course Name ENGLISH 9

Course Number 100121

Grade 9

Credit 1 Credit

Length 2 Terms

Prerequisite None

Course Description:

English 9 is a required course for high school graduation. Students will read at least two novels and one play along with selected short stories and nonfiction texts. Students will complete various writing assignments, including formal essays. Students will focus on reading skills that will help them understand and analyze literature. This class is designed for general education students scoring above the 40%ile on standardized assessments.



Course Name ENGLISH 9 T

Course Number 100125/100126

Grade 9

Credit 1 Credit

Length 2 Terms

Prerequisite None

Course Description:

English 9 T is a required course for high school graduation. This class would be a co-taught class taught by a general education and special education teacher. Students will read at least three novels along with selected short stories and nonfiction texts. Students will complete various writing assignments, including formal essays. Students will focus on reading skills that will help them understand and analyze literature. Reading and writing assignments will be scaffolded to help students meet the English 9 standards. This class is designed for general education students scoring below the 40%ile on standardized assessments as well as students with IEPs scoring between the 20-40%ile on standardized assessments. Teacher recommendations will also be utilized for correct placement.



Course Name HONORS ENGLISH 9

Course Number 100131

Grade 9

Credit 1 Credit

Length 2 Terms

Prerequisite None



Course Description:

Honors English 9 provides first year students an alternative to General English 9. Honors English 9 employs a variety of teaching methods with an emphasis on small group discussion. The class differs from General English 9 in its pacing, literary content, and difficulty. The literature studied ranges from classical to contemporary. Assessment will consist of oral and objective tests, essays, and group work.

Course Name ENGLISH 10

Course Number 100221

Grade 10

Credit 1 Credit

Length 2 Terms

Prerequisite English 9



Course Description:

General English 10 is a core Language Arts course, a prerequisite for upper level writing and literature courses, and a graduation requirement. Students are taught to understand and analyze literature by using reading strategies, literary terms and critical thought. Formal writing is emphasized with particular stress on specific detail, organization, and quotation analysis. Students will read at least two novels and one play along with selected short stories and nonfiction texts, and poetry.

Course Name ENGLISH 10 T

Course Number 100241/100242

Grade 10

Credit 1 Credit

Length 2 Terms

Prerequisite English 9



Course Description:

English 10 T is a core Language Arts course, a prerequisite for upper level writing and literature courses, and a graduation requirement designed for general education students scoring below the 40%ile on standardized assessments as well as students with IEPs scoring between the 20-40%ile on standardized assessments. Teacher recommendations will also be utilized for correct placement. This class would be a co-taught class taught by a general education and special education teacher. General English 10 T is a core Language Arts course, a prerequisite for upper level writing and literature courses, and a graduation requirement. Students are taught to understand and analyze literature by using reading strategies, literary terms and critical thought. Formal writing is emphasized with particular stress on specific detail, organization, and quotation analysis. Students will read at least two novels along with selected short stories and nonfiction texts, and poetry.

Course Name HONORS ENGLISH 10

Course Number 100231

Grade 10

Credit 1 Credit

Length 2 Terms

Prerequisite English 9



Course Description:

Honors English 10 provides an alternative to English 10 for sophomores seeking advanced level work as preparation for college. Students should have strong reading, writing, and literary analysis skills. Honors English 10 differs from General English 10 in several areas: the difficulty of literary works, the level of understanding expected of students, and the pacing. Classical rather than modern literature dominates the course. The course utilizes a variety of classroom activities, focusing primarily on discussion and formal writing.

LITERATURE COURSE REQUIREMENT COURSES (Year three)

Course Name AMERICAN LITERATURE

Course Number 100661



Grade 11 - 12

Credit .5 Credit

Length 1 Term

Prerequisite English 9 & 10

Course Description:

American Literature is a survey of American writers studied chronologically primarily through selected short stories and poetry. Course content will include reading and discussing the works of representative authors such as Nathaniel Hawthorne, Edgar Allan Poe, and F. Scott Fitzgerald. This course provides college bound students with a foundation of skills and analysis which will assist them in their academic future.

Course Name BRITISH LITERATURE

Course Number 100641



Grade 11 - 12

Credit .5 Credit

Length 1 Term

Prerequisite English 9 & 10

Course Description:

“For whom the bell tolls”

“To be or not to be”

These and other famous references originate in the literature from The United Kingdom. This course covers classic British literature, taught with a contemporary approach. Course content includes poetry, plays, a novel, and short stories. Selected authors include Chaucer, Shakespeare, Mary Shelley, and others. Through a variety of classroom activities, students will gain a traditional foundation in literature and will relate the materials to their lives and current society.

Course Name MYSTERY & SUSPENSE IN
LITERATURE AND FILM
Course Number 100691
Grade 11 - 12
Credit .5 Credit
Length 1 Term
Prerequisite English 9/10 or Honors English 9/10
Course Description:



We will be reading short stories and novels by some of the world's most renowned mystery and suspense authors and analyzing what makes their writing styles so effective in the realm of suspense. We will then move to films that have adapted these works to the screen, to include, but not limited to Hitchcock films, films portraying Agatha Christie novels, and more. We will be writing essays that critique and analyze the literary works and the films. The emphasis of this work is to investigate what qualifies as "suspense" in literature and what qualities of that literature make it appealing for film adaptations.

Course Name CONTEMPORARY WORLD LITERATURE
Course Number 100621
Grade 11 - 12
Credit .5 Credit
Length 1 Term
Prerequisite English 9 & 10
Course Description:



Contemporary World Literature is a one term course designed to fulfill the graduation requirements for literature. The curriculum reflects selections of poetry, short stories, and novels by American and International authors. This course emphasizes not only literary texts, but the life and culture of the authors we study in order to gain a deeper understanding of literature and its purpose. Formal assessments include one essay exam, research project, and a presentation. Contemporary World Literature provides many opportunities to read, discuss, analyze, and reflect on various short fictional works and novels.

Course Name CONTEMPORARY WORLD LITERATURE T

Course Number 100631



Grade 11 - 12

Credit .5 Credit

Length 1 Term

Prerequisite English 9 & 10

Course Description:

Contemporary World Lit T is a one term course designed to fulfill the literature requirement for high school graduation. The course is designed for general education students scoring below the 40%ile on standardized assessments as well as students with IEPs scoring between the 20-40%ile on standardized assessments. Teacher recommendations will also be utilized for correct placement. This class would be a co-taught class taught by a general education and special education teacher. The curriculum reflects short stories by American and International authors. This course emphasizes not only literary texts, but the life and culture of the authors we study in order to gain a deeper understanding of literature and its purpose. Contemporary World Literature provides many opportunities to read, discuss, analyze, and reflect on various short fictional works and novels.

WRITING COURSE REQUIREMENT COURSES (Year Three)

Course Name COMPOSITION

Course Number 100821

Grade 11 - 12

Credit .5 Credit

Length 1 Term

Prerequisite English 9 & 10

Course Description:

Composition is a one term course designed to fulfill the writing requirement for high school graduation. The course is designed for general education students scoring above the 40%ile on standardized assessments. The course is designed to help students develop a personal, effective and esthetically pleasing writing style, foster a willingness to write and rewrite, and learn the editing skills necessary to polish a final draft. Students will experiment with a wide variety of forms and topics including persuasion, description, exposition, argument, and analysis. Class time is devoted to improving sentence/paragraph construction, reading and listening to student and professional models, responding in groups, and editing and polishing final drafts.



Course Name COMPOSITION T

Course Number 100623

Grade 11 - 12

Credit .5 Credit

Length 1 Term

Prerequisite English 9 & 10

Course Description:

Composition T is a one term course designed to fulfill the writing requirement for high school graduation. The course is designed for general education students scoring below the 40%ile on standardized assessments as well as students with IEPs scoring between the 20-40%ile on standardized assessments. Teacher recommendations will also be utilized for correct placement. This class would be a co-taught class taught by a general education and special education teacher. The course is designed to help students develop a personal, effective and esthetically pleasing writing style, foster a willingness to write and rewrite, and learn the editing skills necessary to polish a final draft. Students will experiment with a wide variety of forms and topics including persuasion, description, exposition, argument, and analysis. Class time is devoted to improving sentence/paragraph construction, reading and listening to student and professional models, responding in groups, and editing and polishing final drafts.



Course Name GRAMMAR WRITING (ENG:105)
(Composition I)

Course Number 100841



Grade 11 - 12

Credit 1 Credit

Length 2 Terms

Prerequisite English 9 & 10 with a C or better

Course Description:

English 105 (Comp I) is a dual credit course, offered with three credits through Eastern Iowa Community Colleges (EICC). Grammar Writing, the prerequisite to English 105, is a college bound writing class, designed for the student who wishes to prepare for the ACT exam and for college writing. During the first term, Grammar Writing, students will learn grammar to provide a basis for instruction in usage, mechanics, and concrete writing techniques. During the second term, English 105 (Comp I), the skills mastered will be used and reinforced in the writing process. Students will develop critical reading and thinking skills to analyze and evaluate information from diverse viewpoints. The course introduces documentation practices and information literacy skills. Students will write and revise at least four formal assignments and produce a minimum of 20 pages. At Bettendorf High School, students will fulfill the junior-senior writing requirement and earn one additional Language Arts elective credit. Students must earn a "C" or better to earn college credit.

Grammar Writing Term

- Recognize the parts of speech and the purpose of each
- Recognize and correct faulty sentence structures
- Recognize and correct errors in subject-verb agreement, pronoun- antecedent, agreement, modifiers, verbs, and pronoun case forms.

English 105 (Comp I) Term

- Analyze complex arguments
- Produce cogent and cohesive writing for a specific audience and purpose
- Develop effective supporting evidence by integrating and documenting sources
- Demonstrate engagement with a recursive writing process

Course Name AP ENG (LIT: 101/ ENG:106)
(Intro. to Lit/Intermediate Rhetoric)
Course Number 101211/101212



Grade 12
Credit 1 Credit
Length 2 Terms
Prerequisite Grammar/Writing (ENG:105) AND either
Am. Lit., Brit. Lit., or Cont. World Lit.
w/ a C or better

Course Description:

This combined series of courses are dual-credit courses, offered with six credits through Eastern Iowa Community College (EICC). Students with a grade of “C” or better will earn three credits in Literature 101, Introduction to Literature, and three credits in English 106, Composition II. The first term, Lit 101 is an introduction to the major literary genres: the short story, poetry, drama, and the novel. Emphasis is placed on formal, thematic, historical, cultural, and critical elements of literature, as well as the relationship between literature and the human condition. The second term, English 106 (Composition II) is a continuation of Composition I. Students will analyze, synthesize, and evaluate texts. Critical thinking skills, argumentation, writing style, and academic research, introduced in Composition I, will also be further developed in this course. Students MAY ALSO elect to take the test in Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition, offered in May, which may directly qualify for college credit as determined by individual colleges and universities. Students who take AP exams may also qualify for additional benefits such as AP Scholar designations. Students must have earned a “C” or better in each prerequisite.

Lit 101 Term

- Define the characteristics of different literary genres.
- Identify thematic concerns of various literary texts in multiple genres.
- Analyze the impact of historical, cultural, and critical context on the formal and thematic elements of literary works.
- Illustrate the value of diversity through an exploration of literature.
- Examine the relationship between literature and the human condition.
- Respond to the readings through informal writing and classroom discussion.
- Write formal critical essays that evaluate literature, connect it to other works, incorporate personal experience, explore its contexts, and assess its relationship to the human condition.

Eng 106 (Comp II) Term

- Apply college-level reading and critical thinking skills to visual and written texts.
- Analyze and evaluate rhetorical strategies in visual and written texts.
- Develop critical thinking skills to be able to analyze information and evaluate arguments from diverse viewpoints and multiple perspectives.
- Implement rhetorical strategies in the creation of written arguments.
- Utilize the research process to complete a documented paper in MLA or APA style.
- Exhibit written communication skills necessary to engage in intellectual discourse about civic issues.

Course Name FICTION WRITING

Course Number 102131



Grade 11 - 12

Credit .5 Credit

Length 1 Term

Prerequisite English 9 & 10

Course Description:

Fiction Writing is a one term, Language Arts Elective. You will be writing a great deal in this course in various different genres including character portraits, ekphrastic fiction, historical fiction and poetry. Students will also regularly practice the skill of revision and compose a choice based portfolio for their final.

Course Name HEROISM IN LITERATURE & FILM

Course Number 100141



Grade 9 - 10

Credit .5 Credit

Length 1 Term

Prerequisite None

Course Description:

Heroism in Literature, offered as a freshman and sophomore elective, will focus on the development and role of the hero trope across literary platforms, cultures, and time from Moses to Luke Skywalker and beyond. Students will study the hero as fiction presented in prose, graphic novel, and film, as well as non-fiction presented in prose. Students will also compose an original hero story.

Course Name NEWSPAPER WRITING

Course Number 190211



Grade 9 - 12

Credit .5 Credit

Length 1 Term

Prerequisite English 9 or Teacher Recommendation

Course Description:

This course focuses on the writing and thinking skills necessary for many communication-related careers. Students in this course learn to identify and produce various aspects of newspaper style and design. Students will learn how to prepare a story through planning questions or doing research prior to doing an interview. The course introduces the types of journalistic stories including news, features, editorials and reviews. Students will interview a variety of individuals as sources for articles. Newspaper writing students may have some writing published in the Growl or on bettgrowl.org and will have the option of enrolling in Publications the following term. Newspaper Writing is a required course for enrolling in Publications I.

Course Name MASS MEDIA AND CULTURE

Course Number 104211

Grade 11 - 12

Credit .5 Credit

Length 1 Term

Prerequisite English 9 and 10

Course Description:

Mass Media and Culture, offered as a Language Arts elective, will focus on the power of the media in day-to-day living. Students will study social media, print, auditory, and visual media and explore the breadth and depth of the impact this media has on their lives. Critical analysis of social media, advertisements, movies, and music are required. Students complete a film project at the end of the term which serves as their final exam.

Course Name POPULAR ADULT LITERATURE

Course Number 100651



Grade 11 - 12

Credit .5 Credit

Length 1 Term

Prerequisite English 9 & 10

Course Description:

Popular Adult Literature is an elective literature course for independent readers. It is an individualized class designed to promote a lifelong enjoyment of reading. The class consists of two parts; the first part involves the class reading a common novel, and the subsequent part provides students the opportunity to study novels and authors of their own choice based on the genres the class chooses to explore together. Setting and meeting deadlines are imperative to a student's success in this course. At the end of the quarter, students will present an author project to the class.

Course Name YEARBOOK/NEWSPAPER

Course Number 190231

Grade 10 - 12

Credit .5 Credit

Length 1 Term

Prerequisite Newspaper Writing / or teacher recommended

Course Description:

This class is responsible for producing The Growl, the school newspaper; and bettgrowl.org, the online newspaper; and The Beacon, the school yearbook. Students interested in applying for an editorship during their senior year must have taken Newspaper Writing and/or taken Publications for the entire school year. Students will plan the contents of the newspaper and yearbook, which includes the following:

- Newspaper -- researching, interviewing and writing news, feature and opinion articles, designing layout, taking and editing photographs with digital cameras, adding graphics and selling and designing advertising. The newspaper is published four times during the school year.
- Online -- students will learn the differences in writing for print vs. online; they will upload articles and photographs to the website on a regular basis (weekly).
- Yearbook -- designing pages, writing copy and captions, taking and editing photographs with digital cameras, and selling yearbooks, and/or sponsorships. The yearbook is distributed in the spring. Students interested in this course should be able to write well and manage time effectively. After-school time will be required. Publications I, II, and III are taught concurrently and are repeatable for up to 6 terms.

Course Name DEBATE

Course Number 108311



Grade 10 - 12

Credit .5 Credit

Length 1 Term

Prerequisite English 9

Course Description:

Debate is an elective course for honors or advanced students. The course will cover units on argumentation and debate to help students communicate in a structured manner, develop critical thinking skills, and develop research skills. Students benefit from a wide variety of speech and debate events. To create standards for national competition, the National Speech & Debate Association (NSDA) has defined a number of events, with this course focusing on Lincoln-Douglas Debate and Public Forum Debate.

Course Name SPEECH

Course Number 108321



Grade 10 - 12

Credit .5 Credit

Length 1 Term

Prerequisite English 9

Course Description:

Speech is an elective course for general level or interested students. The course is designed to help students become more confident, overcome speaking anxieties, develop organizational skills to speak in public, and become more aware of a wide range of people, personalities, and cultures. This class will focus on introducing students to a variety of common public speaking experiences.

Course Name SPC 112: PUBLIC SPEAKING

Course Number 330603



EICC 3 CREDITS

Grade 11 - 12

Credit .5 Credit

Length 1 Term

Prerequisite English 9 and English 10

Course Description:

This course is an introduction to public speaking with emphasis on organization, presentation, and listening. Students will gain experience in the process and principles of public speaking including audience analysis, selection and organization, and style and delivery. Practice in preparation and delivery of a minimum of 30 minutes of graded informative and persuasive extemporaneous speeches are required. 59.4 Lec. Hrs. This course satisfies a general education requirement in the Communications Area.

- Analyze various models of communication.
- Demonstrate usage of the five canons of rhetoric in the preparation and delivery of extemporaneous speeches.
- Demonstrate critical thinking and listening skills.
- Apply strategies to manage speech anxiety effectively.
- Construct and utilize appropriate presentational aids.
- Formulate topic selection through audience analysis.
- Develop and organize content for informative and persuasive speaking situations.
- Identify and employ strategies for persuasion.
- Demonstrate effective vocal and physical speech delivery.
- Cultivate an understanding or awareness of social diversity.
- Enrich their knowledge of cultural diversity.

Course Name FUNDAMENTALS OF ACTING

Course Number 111311

Grade 9 - 12

Credit .5 Credit

Length 1 Term

Prerequisite None

Course Description:

Fundamentals of Acting is designed to familiarize students with various elements of theater while focusing on the acting experience. Fundamentals of Acting is designed to develop self-confidence and communication skills through a step-by-step process, to explore diverse forms of theatre, to dramatize a wide range of characters, to aid the ability to work alone and within a group, and to meet deadlines. Units include improvisation, voice & diction, body & movement, and theatre history.

Course Name ADVANCED ACTING

Course Number 111312

Grade 9 - 12

Credit .5 Credit

Length 1 Term

Prerequisite Fundamentals of Acting or Instructor Approval

Course Description:

Students will extend on the foundation established in Fundamentals of Acting. Focused solely on performance, students will be exposed to different acting techniques applied to challenging literature.

Course Name INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS

Course Number 109911

Grade 12

Credit .5 Credit

Length 1 Term

Prerequisite Senior Standing

Course Description:

Interpersonal Communication is designed to help students develop life-long communication skills. The curriculum emphasizes personal relationships. Students will be asked to share and use personal experiences in order to practice communication skills and form an interpersonal community in the classroom. A willingness to participate and a personal investment are essential to the success of this course. The course contains the following units of study: transactional communication, group communication, nonverbal communication, verbal communication, perception/stereotype, listening/feedback, emotions, self-concept, defense mechanism, conflict/resolution. A majority of the learning will be facilitated through lecture, small group discussion, and role playing. Students will also be required to take tests and quizzes and to submit informal and formal writing, homework, and a personal portfolio final.

Course Name MULTICULTURAL AMERICAN
LITERATURE



Course Number 100681

Grade 11-12

Credit .5

Length 1 Term

Prerequisite English 9 and English 10

Course Description:

This course will explore the work of various multicultural writers across the United States throughout history. Students will analyze how each author's unique identity and environment impacts the style and themes represented in their writing.

Course Name ADVANCED JOURNALISM

Course Number 190411



Grade 11 - 12

Credit .5 Credit

Length 1 Term

Prerequisite English 9/10 or Honors English 9/10

Course Description:

This course will explore the elements of journalistic writing, including journalistic ethics and law, how to determine news and audience needs and how to interview and gather information. Students will learn journalistic style and produce a variety of written products, including news articles, features, op-eds, columns and reviews. Students will also understand the basic layouts and terminology associated with newspaper design.