

English

Advanced English: W131 (1124)

Classification: Dual Credit (3 Credits)

Open to: 12

Prerequisites: English 9, 10, 11. Acceptance into Indiana University as a High School Dual Credit Student including a minimal GPA of 2.7.

Length: Semester

Credits: 1

Weight: Full Point

This is a course in critical reading, writing, and thinking with sources in which students will experience the varied range of academic writing. Students will master the skills of summary, critique, analysis, synthesis, research, and documentation. Students will also learn to adapt the writing process and apply various organization strategies to match the purpose of the individual assignments. Topics for writing will be developed from reading about and discussing in depth issues under debate in different disciplinary fields and among the general public. Students are asked not only to discuss and write about these issues but also to examine the different analytical frameworks and assumptions that various authors and we ourselves bring to such conversations. (Students enrolled in W131 can earn 3 credits from IU – pending acceptance from Indiana University Advanced College Project Program).

AP English Language and Composition (1056)

Classification: Advanced Placement

Open to: 12

Prerequisites: None

Length: Year-long

Credits: 2

Weight: Full Point

This course is for those seniors who demonstrate superior ability and curiosity about the world and their relationship to it. These students will pursue a course of study that is differentiated by the complexity of content, process and product. Students will think critically and use problem-solving skills that will enable them to translate their potential into performance. They will also participate in activities that will enhance their leadership potential. Writing assignments will be frequent, including weekly in-class essays and periodic research papers. Students will also be expected to participate fully in class discussions and make presentations. Students should make use of technological resources both in researching and in producing their papers. The course curriculum is aligned with College Board guidelines.

AP English Literature and Composition (1058)

Classification: Advanced Placement

Open to: 11

Prerequisites: None

Length: Year-long

Credits: 2

Weight: Full Point

AP English Literature and Composition immerses students in the careful reading, discussion, and critical analysis of literature. Through the close study of novels, poetry, and prose passages—including works such as *The Awakening*, *The Great Gatsby*, *The Reluctant Fundamentalist*, and *The Things They Carried*—students explore how writers use language to create meaning and effect. Emphasis is placed on interpreting word choice, figurative language, structure, style, and other literary devices while crafting precise, textually supported arguments. Students engage in regular discussions, presentations, and analytical writing that refine both their interpretive and communication skills. Frequent practice with timed essays and multiple-choice analysis prepares students for the AP Literature and Composition Exam in May. The course challenges students to think deeply, read perceptively, and express ideas with clarity and sophistication—developing not only the skills necessary for the AP exam but also the lasting power to analyze and interpret their own life's novel.

AP Seminar: English (1104)

Classification: Advanced Placement

Open to: 10,11

Prerequisites: None

Length: Full Year

Credits: 2

Weight: Full Point

AP Seminar engages students in cross curricular conversations that explore the complexities of academic and real-world topics and issues by analyzing different perspectives. Students will use an inquiry-based approach to reading and analyzing articles, research studies, and foundational, literary, and philosophical texts; and listening to and viewing speeches, broadcasts, and personal accounts. Students learn to synthesize information from multiple sources, develop their own perspectives in written essays, and design and deliver oral and visual presentations, both individually and as part of a team. Assessment in the course includes two through-course performance tasks and an end-of-course exam.

Creative Writing (1092)

Classification: Regular

Open to: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: None

Length: Semester

Credits: 1

Weight: None

This course will examine the techniques of writing for a personal and public audience through writing poems, stories and plays. Students will use models from published authors as starting points for their own creations. Creative writing provides students with ample opportunities to combine literary creativity with the discipline of written discourse. The concept of the manipulation of language to convey ideas, feelings, moods, and visual images is the basis of the course. Students learn strategies for evaluation and responding to their own writing and the writing of others in a peer-sharing component. In this peer-sharing component, students receive specific training in providing constructive, substantive feedback, while role-playing as likely readers of each creative work.

Debate (1070)

Classification: Regular

Open to: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: None

Length: Semester

Credits: 1

Weight: None

This course focuses on persuasion and argumentation. Students will participate in two types of debate: Lincoln-Douglas and cross-examination team debate. Participation in tournaments for the ZCHS Speech Team is strongly encouraged but not required. Debate focuses on developing skills for students to become in-depth researchers, technical and persuasive writers, effective communicators, and perceptive listeners. Students gain an understanding of argumentation and persuasion theories and develop skills in logic and analysis. Students also research topics using a variety of sources and practice public speaking.

English 9 (1002)

Classification: Regular

Open to: 9

Prerequisites: None

Length: Year-long

Credits: 2

Weight: None

Through the integrated study of literature, composition, and oral communication, English 9 students further develop their use of language as a tool for learning and thinking and as a source of pleasure. Students practice identifying, analyzing, and composing with different elements, structures, and genres of written language. Literature instruction focuses on the opportunity to read and comprehend a broad variety of literature applying appropriate reading strategies to enhance reading skills and literary appreciation and to develop vocabulary. The

Composition component of language arts requires students to write for various audiences and purposes while strengthening skills in paragraph and multi-paragraph writing. Using technology, students receive instruction and practice in the writing process. Composition also provides opportunities to create multiple types of writing. Oral Communication (speech) emphasizes effective listening and speaking techniques and provides opportunities for students to integrate other reading and language arts skills as they learn to express ideas verbally.

English 9 Advanced Curriculum (1002)

Classification: Honors

Open to: 9

Prerequisites: None

Length: Year-long

Credits: 2

Weight: Half Point

This course is for those freshmen who demonstrate superior ability and curiosity about the world and their relationship to it. By progressing through a differentiated, more advanced curriculum, these students will have mastered the basic skills in the language arts program as well as the skills in the honors curriculum. Students will learn and use critical and creative thinking processes. They will become self-directed learners through group and independent activities culminating in the completion of original products. Students will also participate in activities designed to help them explore how man achieves growth through interpersonal relationships.

English 10 (1004)

Classification: Regular

Open to: 10

Prerequisites: None

Length: Year-long

Credits: 2

Weight: None

English 10 reinforces and continues to make full use of many of the activities and skills of English 9. Beyond these, English 10 adds the following emphasis: (1) consideration of world literature and (2) increased focus on the self-conscious choice of comprehension and writing strategies. Literature instruction focuses on opportunities to: respond critically, reflectively and imaginatively to world literature; practice distinguishing among the different types of contents and purposes language can hold; and identifying and forming conclusions, recognizing and using persuasive devices, judging authors' purpose, perspective and expertise, reading and interpreting public documents and developing vocabulary. The composition component of language arts provides students with opportunities to write for various audiences and purposes. Students use the basic modes of oral and written expression through the development of effective descriptive and narrative procedures, including focus and logical organization of ideas. Oral Communication (speech) provides students with opportunities to develop greater facility with choosing and employing different elements of effective oral communication.

English 10 Advanced Curriculum (1004)

Classification: Honors

Open to: 10

Prerequisites: None

Length: Year-long

Credits: 2

Weight: Half Point

This course is designed for those sophomores who demonstrate advanced skills in vocabulary, reading, writing and critical thinking. By progressing through a differentiated, more advanced curriculum, the students will have mastered the basic skills in the language arts program (See English 10) as well as the skills in honors curriculum. Students will study British and American literature.

English 11 (1006)

Classification: Regular

Open to: 11

Prerequisites: None

Length: Year-long

Credits: 2

Weight: None

Through the integrated study of literature, composition, and oral communication, English 11 students further develop their use of language as a tool for learning and thinking and as a source of pleasure. In English 11, students move from predominantly analyzing and using the elements of written language to making judgments based on those analyses. English 11 also incorporates a survey of American Literature from different periods. Literature instruction focuses on opportunities to: develop criteria for judging and analyzing literary works, speeches, essays and poetry, polish appropriate reading skills and strategies; respond critically, reflectively, and imaginatively to American Literature, and develop vocabulary. The composition component provides students with opportunities to produce a variety of forms. Composition in Grade 11 continues to refine students' abilities to articulate sophisticated ideas in an organized manner. The formal study of grammar, usage, spelling, and language mechanics is integrated into the study of writing. Oral Communication (speech) continues to emphasize effective listening and speaking techniques.

English 12 (1008)

Classification: Regular

Open to: 12

Prerequisites: None

Length: Semester or Year-long

Credits: 1 or 2

Weight: None

This course continues to refine students' ability and desire to learn and communicate about language and literature. Literature instruction focuses on opportunities to apply appropriate reading skills and strategies; respond critically, reflectively, and imaginatively to the literature of

outstanding world writers and develop vocabulary. The Composition component of English 12 continues to provide students with opportunities to hone their writing. Using technology, students are able to produce polished final documents. Students are also able to complete complex forms, describe procedures, give directions, and use graphic forms to support a thesis. Oral Communication (speech) continues to emphasize the organization of ideas, awareness of audience, and sensitivity to context in carefully researched and well-organized speeches. Class members will have reading and writing experiences they need for all college courses plus advantageous English course placement in college.

Film Literature (1034)

Classification: Regular

Open to: 11, 12

Prerequisites: None

Length: Semester

Credits: 1

Weight: None

Film literature, a course based on the Indiana Academic Standards for English/Language Arts, is a study of how literature is adapted for film or media. Students will read about the history of film, the reflection or influence of film on the culture, and issues of interpretation, production, and adaptation. Students will examine the visual interpretation of literary techniques and the limitations or special capacities of film versus text to present a literary work. Students will examine how films portray the human condition and the roles of men and women and the various ethnic and cultural minorities in the past and present. Different genres of film will be explored.

This course will be delivered through a combination of discussion, varied digital content, projects, and shared film explorations both inside and outside the classroom. -Students who take this class should be excited about film and literature. These students should be capable of engaging in productive conversations about film while understanding that some of the projects require self-pacing and independence. The course will culminate with a special project that demonstrates knowledge, application, and progress in the Film Lit course.

Journalism (1080)

Classification: Regular

Open to: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: None

Length: Semester

Credits: 1

Weight: None

Journalism is a study of the profession of journalism, reporting, journalistic writing, law, and ethics as they apply to print and digital media products. Through the study of journalism, students will see how journalism and media affect their lives and influence society. It includes a comparison of journalistic writing to other types of writing with practical application of news, features, opinion and digital media writing forms. Students also study photojournalism and design. By the end of the semester, students will write and design stories for print and digital media. This is not a student publication course, although some of the student's work may be published in the school newsmagazine or yearbook.

Speech (1076)

Classification: Regular

Open to: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: None

Length: Semester

Credits: 1

Weight: None

This course offers an overview of the process of communication and provides a variety of public speaking experiences. Students will develop critical speaking and listening skills. Required speeches are the self-introduction speech, the informative speech, the persuasive speech, and the speech for a special occasion. Students will also perform literary interpretations and give sales pitches. Speech provides the study of and practice in the basic principles and techniques of effective oral communication. This course includes instruction in adapting speech to different audiences and purposes. Students have the opportunities to make different types of oral presentations including viewpoint, instructional, demonstration, informative, persuasive and impromptu. Students are given opportunities to express subject matter knowledge and content through creative, analytical, and expository writing, as well as reading a variety of literary genre related to course content and speaking assignments. This course emphasizes research using technology and careful organization and preparation.

Student Media: News Staff (1086)

Classification: Regular

Open to: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: None

Length: Year-long

Credits: 2

Weight: None

This course provides instruction and hands-on experience in reporting, writing, editing, photography, design, and publishing for *The Harbinger* student newsmagazine and related digital media. Students learn to create and share meaningful, accurate, and engaging content for the school community. They follow the ethical principles and legal standards that guide journalists while developing project management and communication skills. The course prepares students for media or communication careers. Because Student Media is also an extracurricular activity, work and meeting time outside of school hours is expected.

Student Media: News Leadership (1086)

Classification: Regular

Open to: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: By application

Length: Year-long

Credits: 2

Weight: Half Point

This advanced course is designed for experienced students who serve as editors or take on leadership positions within *The Harbinger* staff. Selected students manage teams, oversee content production, and guide the editorial direction of print and digital media. Emphasis is placed on leadership development, advanced editing, design, and decision-making skills, as well as maintaining journalistic ethics and legal standards. Student editors collaborate to plan, produce, and evaluate media that inform, entertain, or persuade the school community. Because of the leadership responsibilities involved, additional time outside of class for meetings, coordination, and deadlines is required. Editor positions are available through an [application process](#).

Student Media: Sports PR Staff (1086)

Classification: Regular

Open to: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: None

Length: Year-long

Credits: 2

Weight: None

This course builds skills in creating and managing digital content for Zionsville athletics as part of *Zionsville Sports Media*. Through hands-on work in reporting, photography, videography, design, and social media, students learn sports reporting, public relations, and digital media production. They cover events, highlight athletes, create promotional materials, and work with community partners while following ethical and legal standards in sports communication. The course prepares students for media or communication careers. Because Student Media is also an extracurricular activity, work outside of school hours is expected. Enrollment in this course requires [submitting an application](#) for approval.

Student Media: Sports PR Leadership (1086)

Classification: Regular

Open to: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: By application

Length: Year-long

Credits: 2

Weight: Half Point

This advanced course is designed for experienced students who take on leadership positions within the *Zionsville Sports Media* staff. Selected students manage content creation and

publishing while guiding staff members in reporting, photography, videography, design, and social media management. ZSM leaders coordinate coverage of Zionsville athletics, oversee content, and collaborate with coaches, athletes, and community partners. Emphasis is placed on leadership development, editorial decision-making, and maintaining ethical and legal standards in sports journalism and public relations. Because of the leadership responsibilities and event coverage requirements, work outside of school hours is expected. Leadership positions are available through an [application process](#).

Student Media: Yearbook Staff (1086)

Classification: Regular

Open to: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: None

Length: Year-long

Credits: 2

Weight: None

This course provides instruction and hands-on experience in reporting, writing, editing, photography, design, and publishing for *The Aerie* yearbook. Students collaborate to plan, create, market, and distribute the yearbook while following the ethical principles and legal standards that guide journalists. They also develop project management and communication skills as they document the school year. The course prepares students for media or communication careers. Because Student Media is also an extracurricular activity, work and meeting time outside of school hours is expected.

Student Media: Yearbook Leadership (1086)

Classification: Regular

Open to: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: By application

Length: Year-long

Credits: 2

Weight: Half Point

This advanced course is designed for experienced students who serve as editors or take on leadership positions within *The Aerie* staff. Selected students lead teams, manage content, and oversee the production and marketing of the yearbook. Emphasis is placed on leadership development, advanced editing and design, and maintaining ethical and legal standards in student media. Student editors guide coverage planning, design direction, and staff training while meeting publication deadlines. Because of the leadership responsibilities involved, additional time outside of class for meetings, coordination, and deadlines is required. Editor positions are available through an [application process](#).