

LANGUAGE ARTS

Four credits are required for graduation.

	9	10	11	12
REQUIRED	Freshman English	Sophomore English	Junior English	Senior English
SELECTIVES	Freshman Honors English	Sophomore Honors English	American Studies AP Comp	AP Lit AP Comp
ELECTIVES	Comp Speech & Debate Creative Writing I	Comp Speech & Debate Creative Writing I Creative Writing II	Comp Speech & Debate Film & Literature Creative Writing I Creative Writing II Intro to Philosophy	Comp Speech & Debate Film & Literature Creative Writing I Creative Writing II Intro to Philosophy

FRESHMAN ENGLISH

Required Grade: 9

Year Course Credit: 1.0

NCAA : Yes

Meets Requirement: Language Arts

Repeated for Credit: No

The focus of this course is on literature and the language arts skills that lead to successful completion of state assessments. The student will study and analyze short stories, novels, poems, and dramas. Students will extend their abilities in reading and writing. Essential skills performance tasks for inclusion in the students' collections of evidence will be completed each semester. This course provides a foundation for higher-level analysis and critical thinking.

FRESHMAN HONORS ENGLISH

Grade: 9

Year Course Credit: 1.0

NCAA : Yes

Meets Requirement: Language Arts

Repeated for Credit: No

Freshman Honors English is a demanding and enriching class intended for students who are pursuing the honors/AP track in Language Arts. Course content will focus on comprehending and analyzing world and American literature through a variety of literary forms and genres. Students will develop their language arts essential skills by completing a variety of writing, speaking, and reading work samples.

SOPHOMORE ENGLISH

Required Grade: 10

Year Course Credit: 1.0

NCAA : Yes

Meets Requirement: Language Arts

Repeated for Credit: No

The focus of this course is developed around the themes of determination, resiliency, ambition and justice. We will examine these scenarios through short stories, novels, poetry, and drama. Students will extend their abilities in reading, writing, and critical thinking. Essential skills performance tasks for inclusion in the students' collections of evidence will be completed each semester.

SOPHOMORE HONORS ENGLISH

Selective Grade: 10

Year Course Credit: 1.0

The theme for the year is "The Natural World." While reading novels by Kingsolver, Abbey, London, and Steinbeck, students will continue learning essay structure, writing CEAs over a multitude of topics. The focus will be on figurative language and literary terms, and how their presence in a piece of writing impacts our understanding of it. Second semester students will write a research analysis, learning how to answer a research question, find primary sources, and evaluate the evidence they uncover.

JUNIOR ENGLISH

Required Grade: 11 (unless enrolled in AP Comp or American Studies)

Year Course Credit: 1.0

The focus of this course is on literature and the language arts skills that lead to successful completion of state assessments. The student will study and analyze short stories, novels, poems, and dramas. Students will extend their abilities in reading and writing. Essential skills performance tasks for inclusion in the students' collections of evidence will be completed each semester. This course provides a foundation for higher-level analysis and critical thinking.

JUNIOR ENGLISH / AMERICAN STUDIES BLOCK

Selective Grade: 11

Year Course Credit: 2.0 (1.0 credit LA and 1.0 credit US History)

This team-taught, integrated literature and history course will explore the American experience through the study of history, literature, art, music, and popular culture. Each unit will focus on a theme, and students will study the theme as it relates to U.S. history and literature from the nation's birth to the present. The course will emphasize collaborative, inquiry-based learning, and each unit will include a community-oriented project. This double-block course satisfies Junior English and U.S. History requirements. Essential skills performance tasks for inclusion in the students' collections of evidence will be completed each semester.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION (AP COMP)

LBCC credit is available

Selective Grade: 11, 12

Year Course Credit: 1.0

The AP English Language and Composition course aligns to an introductory college-level rhetoric (the study of human communication) and writing curriculum. It offers opportunities for students to become critical readers in a variety of disciplines and rhetorical contexts, and to compose their own pieces for a variety of purposes. There is a heavy emphasis on evidence-based analysis, as well as the major modes of writing

(narrative, expository, causal, and persuasive). Students will evaluate, synthesize, and cite research to support their arguments. The course will offer curriculum to prepare students for WR 121 credit and/or the AP Language and Composition Exam.

SENIOR ENGLISH

Required Grade: 12 (unless enrolled in an AP Language Arts Course)

Year Course Credit: 1.0

This course emphasizes the writing and speaking skills needed by workers, consumers, and citizens. Following the Common Core State Standards, students will learn to: cite evidence to back up arguments; read critically; write informative, persuasive, and narrative papers; and use proper grammar and usage. Students will also explore contemporary domestic and world literature.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION (AP LIT)

LBCC credit is available

Selective Grade: 12

Year Course Credit: 1.0

Advanced Placement English Literature is a course designed for students who have demonstrated high achievement in literature and composition courses and who desire a challenging course equivalent to those offered in a college freshman program. The emphasis is on reading, discussion, and written analysis of critically-acclaimed literary works. A major focus of the course is to develop students' analytical and writing skills; students should be prepared to participate in class discussions as well as write analytical essays. Because the focus of the class is literature, students must be prepared for a significant and challenging reading schedule. The course will prepare students to take the AP English Literature exam in the spring.

CREATIVE WRITING I

Elective Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12
Semester Course Credit: .50

This course is an introduction to the art of creative writing. Class participants will write and revise pieces in a number of genres including personal essays, short stories, and poetry; we will also be dabbling in emerging alternative genres. The central focus of the class will be on various processes for creating, using mentor texts as inspiration and models, learning from providing and listening to feedback, and publication. Most important, however, will be learning to engage in a supportive creative community that empowers individual curiosity and artistic risk taking.

CREATIVE WRITING II

Prerequisite: Creative Writing I (B grade or better)
Elective Grade: 10, 11, 12
Semester Course Credit: .50

The purpose of Creative Writing II is to continue advancing skills students learned in Creative Writing I. This course is to enable the further development of “writing and language skills for creative expression in a variety of literary forms” (CPALMS, Florida State University). Students will engage in three, six week projects: short story writing (focus on characterization and setting), poetry (focus on structure poems and physical formatting for open form), and self-select writing (graphic novels, long-short stories, etc).

COMPETITIVE SPEECH AND DEBATE

Elective Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12
Semester Course Credit: .50

This course is designed for students planning to compete in any competitive speaking activity (e.g., American Legion contest, Optimist contest, or tournament competition). Content will be organized on an individual need and interest basis. All competitive events, as well as a variety of public speaking situations, will be studied. The student will be expected to prepare for a variety of events and will be expected to participate in tournament competition.

FILM AND LITERATURE

Elective Grade: 11, 12
Semester Course Credit: .50

Students will learn how the art of filmmaking is used as a narrative vehicle. Much of the course content will focus on films that have been based on literary works. Media activities, reading, research, writing and speaking opportunities will be made available. Students should be aware of the vital importance of attendance, as in-class film viewing and lectures are a one-chance opportunity and may not be available outside the classroom.

INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY

Elective Grade: 11, 12

Semester Course Credit: .50

Students will ask and attempt to answer the questions that have bothered humanity since forever: “Does free will exist?”, “Who am I?”, “What is ‘good’ and ‘bad’?”, “How do I know you aren’t just a computer simulation?”, and “Why does my friend have such bad taste in music?” In the attempt to answer these questions, students will consult ancient and contemporary writings on the topics, discuss and debate them in class, engage in thought experiments, and (perhaps most importantly) apply philosophical ideas and theories to movies and current events. Students can expect to write some, read more, and talk and listen most of all. This course is for students who enjoy deep thinking and abstractions. Not for students who insist that there is one right answer.