

ENGLISH / LANGUAGE
ARTS DEPARTMENT

READING A

This course is an intervention to support students who are reading significantly below grade-level. The focus of this class will be to improve reading fluency and accuracy. Emphasis will also be placed on vocabulary development and reading comprehension strategies. Students will use computer programs, teacher conferencing, and independent work to improve their reading skills. This class meets for a full year on alternating days.

Grades 9-12

Full Year Course Every Other Day

Credit: 1

READING B

This course is an intervention to support students who are reading below grade-level. Students engage in activities to help improve their vocabulary, word-building, and comprehension skills. The course is structured for students to participate in peer-conferencing, teacher-conferencing, and independent reading. This class meets for a full year on alternating days.

Grades 9-12

Full Year Course Every Other Day

Credit: 1

ENGLISH 9 HONORS

This is a course meant for the accelerated student who plans on attending college. It is comprised of classical literature such as the Odyssey, the Old Testament, and Julius Caesar, from the ancient world (Greece, Rome) as well as vocabulary work and process writing. Attention is also paid to the structure of the English language (grammar) to enhance writing skills. Oral communication is also part of this course as well as an introduction to the arts: music appreciation and basic art principles.

Prerequisite: 85 Avg. in Gr. 8, Reading at/above Grade Level & Teacher Recommendation

Credit: 1

ENGLISH 9 CP STANDARD

Students intending to pursue a post-secondary education are urged to take this course which encompasses the development of writing skills, vocabulary training and grammatical skills. Literature from the four major genres (short story, drama, novels, and nonfiction) is studied for enjoyment and the development of reading skills. Novels such as Steinbeck's The Red Pony and Dickey's Song are read along with such classical works as The Odyssey and Greek

myths. Oral communication is also part of this course. An introduction to PSAT/SAT training is also included.

Credit: 1

ENGLISH 9 CP ESSENTIAL

Students in the Basic English program concentrate on skill development in literature, writing and vocabulary building. Emphasis is made on the basic skills of communication and remedial work, when necessary. Students are taught study skills, including critical thinking and inferential reading. Readings from the four major genres (short story, drama, novels and nonfiction) are chosen to develop an interest in reading. Such works include Something Upstairs and the biography of Michael Jordan.

Credit: 1

LITERACY 9

This course is designed for students who will benefit from extra support in reading and writing as they progress through their Freshman year. The focus is to improve students' grammatical skills, word knowledge, and reading comprehension skills. Writing skills will also be emphasized including proper paragraph structure. This course is taught through the use of various fiction and nonfiction texts including stories and novel excerpts.

Credit: 1

ENGLISH 10 HONORS

Designed for the accelerated tenth grade student, this course continues the honors program begun in Grade 9. Literature of the medieval to the modern periods such as Dante's Inferno, Dickens' A Tale of Two Cities, and Bolt's A Man for All Seasons are read along with further development of vocabulary and structure skills. Special attention is paid to the continued development of writing skills and preparation for the PSAT. Continued work in art and music appreciation is also a feature of this course.

Prerequisite: Hum I, 85 Avg. in Gr. 9 Reading at/above Grade Level & Teacher Recommendation

Credit: 1

ENGLISH 10 CP STANDARD

Students intending to pursue a post-secondary education are urged to take this course which encompasses the development of writing skills, vocabulary training and grammatical skills. Literature from the four major genres such as Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet, Knowles A Separate Peace, and selected poems from Designs in Poetry are studied

Credit: 1

ENGLISH 10 CP ESSENTIAL

Students in the Basic English program concentrate on skill development in reading, writing and vocabulary building. Emphasis is made on the basic skills of communication and remedial work, when necessary. Students are taught study skills, including critical thinking and inferential reading with such works as Steinbeck's Of Mice and Men, Hinton's The Outsiders, and selected short stories of Arthur Conan Doyle.

Credit: 1

LITERACY 10/11

This course is an extension of Literacy 9 and continues to provide students with the support they need in reading and writing throughout their sophomore and/or junior year. The focus is to continue to improve students' grammatical skills, word knowledge, and reading comprehension skills. Writing skills will also be emphasized including proper paragraph structure. This course is taught through the use of various fiction and nonfiction texts including stories and novel excerpts that are more challenging than those used in Literacy 9.

Credit: 1

ENGLISH 11 HONORS

For the accelerated 11th grade student, this course concentrates on the development of writing skills required for college work. A variety of writing assignments will broaden the student's ability to communicate effectively and intelligently. Four writing units: argumentation, editorials/feature stories, description, and narration, are taught on a contract basis. Major literature units include the Scarlet Letter, the Crucible, and other works of American literature. Shakespeare's Macbeth is also featured, as well as SAT preparation.

Prerequisite: Hum I & II, 85 Avg. in Gr. 10, Reading at/above Grade Level & Teacher Recommendation

Credit: 1

ENGLISH 11 CP STANDARD

Students intending to pursue a post-secondary education are urged to take this course which encompasses the development of writing skills, vocabulary training and grammatical skills. Literature from the major genres is studied for enjoyment and the development of reading skills. The literature studied is exclusively American (with the exception Shakespeare's Macbeth). Oral communication is also a part of this course, as well as PSAT preparation. Fitzgerald's the Great Gatsby, Wharton's Ethan Frome, and the poems of Robert Frost are highlighted in this course.

Credit: 1

ENGLISH 11 CP ESSENTIAL

Students in the Basic English program concentrate on skill development in reading, writing and vocabulary building. Emphasis is made on the basic skills of communication and remedial work, when necessary. Students are taught study skills, including critical thinking and inferential reading with literature selections such as the short stories of Poe, Hansberry's A Raisin in the Sun, and Wartshi's The Face in My Mirror.

Credit: 1

ENGLISH 12 HONORS /AP/ EEP

This accelerated program gives students the opportunity to obtain college credit for work completed in high school. The course content reflects a partnership with Rhode Island College and the College Board of Princeton, New Jersey. To prepare for the AP examination and to fulfill the requirements outlined by Rhode Island College, AP/EEP students will concentrate on the developing critical reading skills, sophisticated writing abilities, and cooperative learning projects and literary terminology required in college. Preparation for the SAT's and vocabulary building are also included in this program. World literature is the basis of this program, ranging from Shakespeare to excerpts from the Koran. . If a student wishes to enroll in the Early Enrollment Program through Rhode Island College, he/she must register at the beginning of the course and pay a \$135 fee to the college. The course instructor will determine whether or not a student deserves to receive college credit at the end of the course. To assure college credit, students are urged to attain a "B" or better average.

Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation

Semester/Year Course

Credit: 1 (Honors) 2 (AP)

ENGLISH 12 CP STANDARD

Students intending to pursue a post-secondary education are urged to take this course which encompasses the development of writing skills, vocabulary training and grammatical skills. Literature from the four major genres (short story, drama, novels and nonfiction) is studied for enjoyment and the development of reading skills. Oral communication is also a part of this course, as well as SAT preparation.

Credit: 1

ENGLISH 12 CP ESSENTIAL

Students in the basic English program concentrate on skill development in reading, writing and vocabulary building. Emphasis is made on the basic skills of communication and remedial work, when necessary. Students are taught study

skills, including critical thinking and inferential reading. Literature selections include: *Animal Farm, 1984,* and *The Face in My Mirror.*

Credit: 1

BEGINNER/INTERMEDIATE ESL ENGLISH

This class concentrates on the acquisition of the English language. Learning activities focus on reading, writing and speaking. The curriculum stresses second language literacy development using whole language, process writing, cooperative learning, computer-assisted instruction and portfolio assessment. The course offers the newcomer, as well as the more proficient student, activities that promote academic language development and learning strategies.

Year Course

Credit: 2

BRIDGING ESL ENGLISH

This course is designed to be a “bridge” between ESL and mainstream classroom instruction. The curriculum is geared to the academic, linguistic and cultural needs of the students. Students must display a working knowledge of the English language through standardized testing scores.

Year Course

Credit: 2

ADVANCED ESL WRITING WORKSHOP

This course is specifically designed for the advanced ESL student. The course will concentrate on vocabulary development and advanced writing skills including grammar. Instruction will provide practice in a variety of sophisticated topics and techniques such as sentence structure and paragraph development. Activities are designed to encourage students to think independently as well as to provide them with many opportunities to share ideas with their classmates, thus creating a more dynamic learning environment. Students must be interested in and capable of writing expressively in English.

Semester Course

Credit: 1

ENGLISH ELECTIVES

DANCE FOR MUSICAL THEATRE I & II

This course is designed for students who wish to learn the dance history, literature, vocabulary, technique, and style of Broadway musicals. Students in this class dance daily, participate in after school rehearsals and perform in a final showcase.

Open to Grades 10-12

Credit: 1

POETRY WORKSHOP

In this class, students will be introduced to creative expression through poetry. They will be learning a variety of poetic devices, skills and genres. We will read and discuss different poems, analyzing their form and content. Students will write their own poems and learn to workshop and revise their work for publication quality. They will also practice peer-editing their classmates poems.

Open to Grades 10-12

Credit: 1

THEATER ARTS I

Students in this **performance-based** course will develop an awareness of the importance of theater to the individual and society. The entire theatrical process will be studied from the history of theater to original play writing, actual performances and dramatic criticism. This course is open to all grade levels and will stress the development of the student as a performer.

Open to Grades 10-12

Credit: 1

THEATER ARTS II

Theatre Arts II students will focus intensely on certain acting approaches and techniques such as the "Stanislavski" and "Strasburg" methods. These students will concentrate on the fundamentals of play production, student directing, critical analysis of the modern drama, and a final performance. This particular class is **performance-based**, and requires all students to participate in hands-on activities.

Open to Grades 11-12

Prerequisite: 85 Avg. in Theatre Arts I, & Jr. or Sr. Standing

Credit: 1

WRITING FICTION

This course presents the essentials of plot, structure, description, character development, point of view, and dialogue. Writing exercises and conferencing are used to illustrate these concepts. The purpose of this course is for the individual student to discover his/her "writing voice". Consequently, each student will become the best writer possible. The requirement is to write a series of short stories, multiple pieces of episode fiction, several chapters of a novel, a screenplay, or a play.

Open to Grades 10-12

Prerequisites: None

Credit: 1

YEARBOOK

Students are expected to exhibit creativity and enthusiasm in the planning sessions for each section of the yearbook. The student must accept and successfully complete all assignments. Must learn how to use a digital camera and demonstrate that they can take and edit photographs according to generally accepted standards for journalistic photography. The student are expected to show proficiency in developing writing skills appropriate to yearbook production, including but not limited to interviews, polls and stories. Proficiency in the use of computer software appropriate to yearbook production is expected along with full responsibility for the complete preparation of a certain number of pages. Marking period grades shall be based on conferences between student and teacher in terms of the degree of the student's participatory effort and success in the areas outlined above. This is an activity-based, project-based, and outcome-based course; there are no quizzes, tests, or exams for this course.

Open to Grades 11 and 12

Prerequisite: One Technology Course

Credit: 1