

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ENGLISH

Literacy Lab/Freshman English (42310111)

Grade level: 9th

Prerequisite(s): Placement based on counselor approval

Literacy Lab/Freshman English is a double-block class designed to increase students' reading levels. The focus is on the 7 Habits of Proficient Readers. The literature will include independent choices and selections from world literature. In addition, the course continues development of the writing process while focusing on personal, literary, analytical, reflective, and transactive writing. Students will also study vocabulary and grammar.

Honors Freshman English (42310131)

Grade level: 9th

Prerequisite(s): None

HNR Freshman English blends the strands of reading, writing, speaking, listening, and observing as communication tools. The content has been structured so that students build on their background from previous grades to increase their competence in all areas of communication. The course presents a wide range of reading experiences including short stories, novels, poetry, and drama. The course also requires students to use the writing process and criteria for composing and assessing effective writing. Assignments in E1H2 are structured to call upon the student's speaking, listening, and observing skills as they communicate information for a variety of authentic purposes.

Advanced Program Freshman English (42310191)

Grade level: 9th

Prerequisite(s): Strong Performance in Middle School English

ADV Freshman English blends the strands of reading, writing, speaking, listening, observing, and using technology as a communication tool. The content is structured so that students build on their background from the primary, intermediate, and middle grades. The course is designed to provide a wide range of reading experiences with print and non-print materials that have literary, informational, persuasive, and practical purposes. Students are required to use the writing process and criteria for effective writing to demonstrate their abilities to write in a variety of forms and for multiple audiences and purposes. Students use writing-to-learn and writing-to-demonstrate-learning strategies to make sense of their reading and thinking experiences. Speaking, listening, and observing skills are used to communicate information for a variety of authentic purposes. In addition, students continue to integrate inquiry skills and technology to communicate ideas.

Literacy Lab/Sophomore English (42320111)

Grade level: 10th

Prerequisite(s): Placement based on counselor approval

Literacy Lab/Sophomore English is a double-block class designed to increase students' reading levels. The literature will include independent choices and selections from world literature. In addition, the course continues development of the writing process while focusing on personal, literary, analytical, reflective, and transactive writing. Students will also study vocabulary and grammar.

Honors Sophomore English (42320131)

Grade level: 10th

Prerequisite(s): Freshmen English

HNR Sophomore English is a literature and composition course seeks to enhance the student's understanding, effective use, and enjoyment of language. The purpose of this course is to prepare students to read, write, and think analytically and creatively as they will be required to do so in college and the professional world. Our reading will focus on literature through chronological and thematic units. This course will require students to use the writing process assignments, work collaboratively with peers, and work independently.

Advanced Program Sophomore English (42320191)**Grade level: 10th****Prerequisite(s): Strong performance in Freshman English**

ADV Sophomore English continues to build the reading, writing, speaking, listening, observing, and using of technology that was started during the freshman year. The course is designed to provide a wide range of reading experiences with print and non-print materials that have literary, informational, persuasive, and practical purposes. Students are required to use the writing process and criteria for effective writing to demonstrate their abilities to write in a variety of forms and for multiple audiences and purposes. A strong focus is placed on the informational form for the purpose of recognizing, using, and analyzing: author's purpose, organization patterns, text features, and persuasive techniques. Students continue to use writing-to-learn and writing-to-demonstrate-learning strategies to make sense of their reading and thinking experiences. Students are asked to make text to self, text to text, and text to world connections for the purpose of formulating and explaining opinions. Speaking, listening, and observing skills are used to communicate information for a variety of authentic purposes. In addition, students continue to integrate inquiry skills and technology to communicate ideas.

Honors Junior English (42330131)**Grade level: 11th****Prerequisite(s): Freshmen and Sophomore English**

HNR Junior English continues to help students progress in their mastery of the mechanics of the English language as well as to help students develop an appreciation for various types of literature. During the junior year, American literature is emphasized.

Advanced Program Junior English (42330191)**Grade level: 11th****Prerequisite(s): Junior standing**

ADV Junior English is designed to prepare students for both the collegiate level of analytical and research reading/writing as well as to relate writing topics for real world application. Students will also strive to connect the components of American Literature, of both fiction and nonfiction, to the abstract concept of the "American Dream." Students demonstrate their academic writing in a formal MLA formatted research piece as well as in other styles and genres. These other writing styles include transactive, expository, personal, and literary. This course will give students the opportunity to communicate orally through presentations or group work, analyze several different texts for real world application as well as for aesthetic purposes, and to use technology to enhance their reading comprehension and writing skills. Technology is frequently used, implemented, and needed to succeed in this course. Students focus on vocabulary skills that enhance both writing and oral communication, and this course is designed to prepare students for the standardized tests that are required from most collegiate level schools.

Advanced Placement English Language and Composition (42351161)**Grade level: 11th****Prerequisite(s): Junior standing and instructor recommendation.**

AP English Language and Composition corresponds to the college composition course; therefore, it is an advanced writing course that includes the study of rhetoric and argument. This focus requires the use of nonfiction, especially essays and speeches. This course allows students to write in several forms—narrative, analytical, expository, argumentative—on many different subjects from personal experiences to public policies, from imaginative literature to popular culture.

This course will also teach students to read primary and secondary source material carefully, to synthesize material from these texts in their own compositions, and to cite source material using conventions recommended by professional organizations. The main goal is to enable students to read complex texts with understanding and to write prose of sufficient richness and complexity to communicate effectively with mature readers. Students will write in both informal and formal contexts to gain authority and learn to take risks in writing. Both reading and writing make students aware of the interactions among the author, the audience, the subject, conventions of the genre, and rhetorical devices including syntax, diction, voice, and tone. (*adapted from the College Board Course Description*)

Since Instructor recommendation is a requirement for this course, an assumption is made that students have already developed a command of Standard English grammar and mechanics. Ideally, students in this course should have good to excellent reading and writing skills. Those who struggle with the fundamentals of grammar, with developing ideas, or with advanced-level reading will have difficulty succeeding in the course. In addition to these skills, the ability to think abstractly, interpret, and read beyond the surface or for mere plot summary are keys to success.

Note: College level curriculum taught in a high school setting

Honors Senior English (42340131)**Grade level: 12th****Prerequisite(s): Freshmen, Sophomore, and Junior English**

HNR Senior English continues to help students progress in their mastery of the mechanics of the English language as well as to help students develop an appreciation for various types of literature. During the senior year, English literature is emphasized.

Advanced Program Senior English (42340191)**Grade level: 12th****Prerequisite: Senior standing**

ADV Senior English is a literature and composition course that seeks to enhance the student's understanding, effective use, and enjoyment of language. The purpose of this course is to prepare students to read, write and think analytically and creatively as they will be required to do in college and the professional world. Literature study will focus on British and world literature. Students will produce a writing portfolio required for graduation. This course will require students to use the writing process in writing assignments, work collaboratively with peers, and work independently.

Bellarmino University Dual Credit: Advanced Senior English (42340191)**Grade level: 12th****Prerequisite(s): Senior standing, instructor approval**

ADV Senior English follows the same content and format as *Advanced Program Senior English*, but, in addition, qualified (dependent on ACT score and grade point average set by Bellarmine University) students have the opportunity to pay tuition and receive college credit for English 101 (3 hours) and/or Literature 201 (3 hours) through Bellarmine University.

Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition (42352161)**Grade level: 12th****Prerequisite(s): Senior standing and instructor recommendation.**

AP English Literature is a college-level English class that focuses on preparing students for the opportunity to earn college credit by taking the Advanced Placement Examination in English Literature and Composition, sponsored by the College Board. Advanced Placement Literature and Composition is a college-level English class that focuses mostly on critical analysis of literature, includes poetry, plays, novels, short stories and essays written at various times in various cultures, with an emphasis on literature written originally in English. Through the close reading of these selected texts, students will deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their reader. Students will develop expository, analytical, and argumentative essays, as well as creative writings. Through these various writings, students will develop their ability to respond to and explain clearly what they understand about literary works and why they interpret them as they do. Students are expected to justify their written interpretations of literary works through references to details and patterns found in the text, addressing figurative language, imagery, symbolism, tone, character, action, argument and various techniques and strategies authors employ to evoke responses from readers. (*Advanced Placement Course Description*, The College Board, May 1998).

This rigorous course requires that students have a strong background in reading and analytical writing. They should recognize that the class requires extensive, thoughtful reading and discussion of challenging literature, and critical analyses. They would be expected to already know how to carefully and cogently support a thesis with evidence from various texts, while also demonstrating a mastery of mechanics, syntax and grammar.

Note: College level curriculum taught in a high school setting. It is recommended that students interested in this course take the Advanced Placement Language and Composition course during their junior year.

Oral Communications/Debate (42351311)**Grade level: 9th-12th****Prerequisite(s): None**

Oral Communications/Debate covers a variety of experiences that develop basic concepts of the oral communication process. The class includes communication theory as well as speech preparation and delivery. The goals of the course are to develop and improve argumentative and critical-thinking skills in communication settings. Topics include analysis of discourse, development of sound oral reasoning, proper methods of refutation, and the facilitation of argumentation in group situations. Through participation in various types of in-class debates and forums on current topics, students research topics, discover issues, and formulate propositions as they apply to social and personal decision-making.

Note: Elective course.

Great Books (42343011)**Grade level: 10th-12th****Prerequisite(s): None**

Great Books explores a wide variety of genres and subjects students choose. Class discusses these ideas through the Shared Inquiry method. Students will learn to develop interpretive questions, discuss, debate, question, and share what they find in their readings. Students also develop writings and projects based on their experiences using detailed analysis of the literature.

Two educators at the University of Chicago launched the Great Books Foundation in 1947. Robert Maynard Hutchins, then chancellor of the university, and professor Mortimer Adler shared a vision of book discussion groups in which passionate readers could meet and talk about enduring issues and ideas. These groups have transformed into a more formal course and movement in schools and universities across the country.

Note: Elective course.

Creative Writing (42310711)**Grade level: 10th-12th****Prerequisite(s): Freshman English**

Creative Writing is designed for both the skilled and determined beginning writer as we explore the realm of writing for the aesthetic purpose of creating pieces of fiction, flash fiction, monologues, plays, and poetry in many forms. Students explore writing in different environments, from personal perspectives, and character perspectives based on different given prompts. Finished projects include: a working college writing portfolio, group presentation over different literary magazines/reviews, a personal poetry book, a collection of flash fiction pieces, a short story, and a school-wide publication of *One Blue Wall* (the school literary magazine). In producing this magazine, students will develop the skills in peer revision, the writing process, and oral communication. Students will collect pieces of writing from all over Manual High School, and they will then edit, revise, and contact each author as they create a published collection of different creative writing pieces.

Note: Must meet ACT requirement for University of Louisville for Dual Credit