

English Department Sequence

Course Title	Length	Meeting Time	Grades
English 9	Full Year	Full Year	Grade 9
Honors English 9	Full Year	Full Year	
English 10	Full Year	Full Year	Grade 10
Honors English 10	Full Year	Full Year	
Written Communications	Full Year	Semester	
Junior Composition	Semester	Semester	Grade 11
American Literature	Semester	Semester	
Written Communications	Full Year	Semester	
AP Language**	Full Year	Full Year	
Composition I*	Semester	Semester	Grade 12
Composition II*	Semester	Semester	
Public Speaking*	Semester	Semester	
Senior Composition	Semester	Semester	
Film and Literature	Semester	Semester	
Written Communications	Full-Year	Semester	

*NICC concurrent enrollment course for college credit.

**Advanced Placement courses for college credit upon successful completion of the advanced placement exam. The best preparation for AP includes the grade 9 and 10 honors English courses.

Acceptance of college credit varies with each university/college/community college. Contact your postsecondary institution of choice to verify credit transfers.

State rules stipulate all students must complete four years of English to graduate from high school; Four-year college/universities also require four years of English for admittance.

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

PHILOSOPHY

The general philosophy of the English department revolves around four key areas: writing skills, oral communication, literature proficiency, and research skills. The main objective is to gain competency in areas in a coordinated program, 7-12, and apply the skills acquired so students can communicate as educated adults upon graduation.

STANDARDS

THE STUDENT WILL:

- 1) Demonstrate competence in the general skills and strategies of the writing process.
- 2) Demonstrate competence in the stylistic and rhetorical aspects of writing.
- 3) Write with a command of the grammatical and mechanical conventions of composition.
- 4) Effectively gather and use information for research purposes.
- 5) Demonstrate competence in the general skills and strategies of the reading process.
- 6) Demonstrate competence in general skills and strategies for reading literature.
- 7) Demonstrate competence in the general skills and strategies for reading information.
- 8) Demonstrate competence in applying the reading process to specific types of literary texts.
- 9) Demonstrate competence in applying the reading process to specific types of informational texts.
- 10) Demonstrate competence in using different information sources, including those of a technical nature, to accomplish specific tasks.
- 11) Demonstrate competence in speaking and listening as tools for learning.
- 12) Demonstrate an understanding of the nature and function of the English language.
- 13) Demonstrate a familiarity with selected literary works of enduring quality.
- 14) Identify and utilize technology appropriate to the task.
- 15) Demonstrate respect and understand Catholic values, ethnic diversity, cultural and individual differences and interdependence of people through the communicative arts.

CAREERS IN THE ENGLISH FIELD

Actor/Actress
Advertising Copywriter
Advertising Manager
Announcer
Art Director
Author
Broadcast Technician
Cable TV Technician
Cartoonist
Choral/Instrumental Director
College Professor
Columnist
Comedian
Commercial Artist
Composer
Computer Artist
Copywriter
Counselor
Critic
Desktop Publisher
Director
Dramatist
Editor
Fiction Writer
Interpreter for Hearing Impaired

Layout/Paste-up Artist
Librarian
Literary & Theatrical Agent
Playwright
Production Designer
Photo Journalist
Producer
Performing Musical
Politician
Proofreader
Production Designer
Publisher
Radio/TV Announcer
Radio/TV Writer
Reporter/Journalist
Speech/Language Pathologist
Scriptwriter
Screenwriter
Technical Writer
Teacher
T.V. Programmer
Writer
Legal Assistant
Graphic Arts Management

NUMBER:	521/522	TITLE:	English 9
GRADE(S):	9	MEETING TIME	Daily
LENGTH:	Year	CREDIT:	5 per semester

COURSE SUMMARY: Student will:

1. Read and interpret literature: plays, short stories, poetry, non-fiction & novels.
2. Use language to recall, evaluate, and interpret.
3. Employ proper grammar, syntax, punctuation, and spelling in all communication.
4. Use personal experience to create meaning in their writing.
5. Acquire an expanding vocabulary from a study of the core literary works.
6. Interpret poetry by recognizing poetic devices in relation to meaning.
7. Identify in the core literature and use in writing the structural components of plot, setting, characterization, theme, and point of view to create meaning.
8. Write clear, cogent and concise paragraphs.
9. Read literature of high interest and complete related projects.
10. Gather information to create a biography.

Upon completion of the course the student will be able to interpret and analyze a variety of literary types: drama, short story, poetry, biography and novel. The student will also be able to communicate more effectively utilizing process writing and practicing various types of writing.

NUMBER:	523/524	TITLE:	Honors English 9
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GRADE(S):	9	MEETING TIME	Daily
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LENGTH:	Year	CREDIT:	5 per semester
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GUIDELINE: Honors guidelines apply

COURSE SUMMARY: Student will:

1. Read, analyze and evaluate core literature and complex literature including plays, short stories, poetry, non-fiction and the novel.
2. Use language to comprehend, apply, analyze, synthesize and evaluate.
3. Employ simple and complex conventions of grammar, syntax, punctuation, and spelling in all written and spoken communication.
4. Use personal experience to create meaning in writing.
5. Acquire an expanding vocabulary from a study of literary works.
6. Identify, analyze and evaluate in the literature and use in writing the structural components of plot, setting, characterization, theme, and point of view to create meaning.
7. Recognize, and analyze rhetorical devices in literature and apply simple and complex rhetorical devices in their own writing.
8. Through the practice of reading, writing, oral communication and research, students will gain proficiency in interpreting and analyzing fiction and non-fiction.
9. Students will develop their opinions and perspectives through the study of a variety of literary texts.
10. Develop skills in persuasive, biographical, poetic, critical literary analysis, and expository writing.
11. Develop positive leadership skills through evaluation of reading, writing, speaking and listening skills.

Through the completion of this weighted honors course, the student will develop the critical thinking skills and problem solving skills needed to read, write, speak and listen critically and proficiently in a variety of situations. The level of difficulty and challenge of this course is commensurate with the grade level and the accelerated ability of the students.

NUMBER:	532/532	TITLE:	English 10
GRADE(S):	10	MEETING TIME	Daily
LENGTH:	Year	CREDIT:	5 per semester

COURSE SUMMARY: Students will:

1. Read, comprehend, and distinguish between five genres of literature: essay, autobiography/biography, short story, poetry and the novel.
2. Examine and analyze literature.
3. Identify, analyze, and apply rhetorical devices and techniques used in the literary selections.
4. Distinguish and evaluate key writing concepts of audience, purpose and mode of writing and apply to their own writing.
5. Explore and analyze the literature in relationship to the human condition and its relevance within the time period of the piece and present day society.
6. Acquire an expanding vocabulary.
7. Continue development of personal writing skills through skills exercises, in class responses, journal responses, polished essay writing utilizing the process approach, creative writing.
8. Illustrate imagination, creativity and strong word choices in their writing and speaking.
9. Prepare thoroughly for an oral presentation to demonstrate, persuade, tell a story, entertain and explain.
10. Arrange ideas in logical sequence and present from a speaking script, outline, text, and memory.
11. Use appropriate technology effectively to communicate using written and oral mediums.
12. Research a topic, write the formal research paper, use proper citation of reliable sources and present the information in an expository address.
13. Assess writing and speaking of self and peers.

Upon completion of the course the student will study literature, writing and speaking. The literature study emphasizes works of varying lengths with attention to themes and applications in the world. The writing/speech study emphasizes personal growth as a writer and presenter.

NUMBER:	533/534	TITLE:	Honors English 10
GRADE(S):	10	MEETING TIME	Daily
LENGTH:	Year	CREDIT:	5 per semester

GUIDELINES: Honors guidelines apply

COURSE SUMMARY: Students will:

1. Read, comprehend, draw parallels and distinctions, analyze, and evaluate six genres of literature: essay, autobiography/biography, short story, poetry, drama and the novel.
2. Examine and analyze literature using a thematic scheme and study the author's use of language, details, diction, syntax, tone, and style to interpret an author's intended meaning.
3. Identify, analyze, and utilize rhetorical devices and techniques used in the literary selections.
4. Distinguish and evaluate key writing concepts of audience, purpose and mode of writing in literature.
5. Explore and analyze complex literature in relationship to the human condition and its relevance within the time period of the piece and present day society.
6. Interpret complex poetry by recognizing poetic devices in relation to meaning.
7. Acquire an expanding vocabulary from a study of the literary selections
8. Continue development of personal writing skills through skills exercises, in class responses, journal responses, polished essay and narrative writing utilizing the process approach.
9. Illustrate imagination, creativity and strong word choices in their writing and speaking.
10. Prepare thoroughly for an oral presentation.
11. Arrange ideas in logical sequence and present from a speaking script, outline, text, multimedia and memory.
12. Use appropriate technology effectively to communicate using written and oral mediums.

13. Research a topic, write the formal research paper, use proper citation of reliable sources and present the information in an expository address.

14. Assess writing and speaking of self and peers.

Honors English 10 is a weighted course divided into thematic units. The difficulty of the literary selections and writing assignments is commensurate with the accelerated ability of the students placed in this course. This course will also strengthen skills in all aspects of oral communication.

NUMBER:	541	TITLE:	Junior Composition
GRADE(S):	11	MEETING TIME	Daily
LENGTH:	Semester	CREDIT:	5 per semester

COURSE SUMMARY: Student will:

1. Evaluate various careers and formulate an effective job search strategy. This includes writing a resume, cover letter and thank you letter, completing a college application and essay, interviewing for a position, researching colleges, networking, and analyzing career interests through the program Choices.
2. Write effectively using effective organization and sentence variety, as well as proper grammar, spellings and punctuation.
3. Analyze and critique one's own writing as well as other pieces of writing.
4. Demonstrate and analyze the writing process.
5. Evaluate purpose and audience in essay writing.
6. Review to improve and apply writing techniques in spelling, usage, grammar, sentence structure, word choice, and punctuation.
7. Utilize a word processing program in typing their writings.

This course is designed to increase students' confidence with the basic structure of essay writing. Using the conventions of standard written English, students will compose essays, topic essays, and college applications essays incorporating various research tools including citation of sources. In addition, students will continue their job/career search and practice technical writing including the resume and cover letter.

NUMBER:	542	TITLE:	American Literature
GRADE(S):	11	MEETING TIME	Daily
LENGTH:	Semester	CREDIT:	5 per semester

COURSE SUMMARY: The student will:

1. Recognize and identify literary trends in American literature through the study of short stories, poetry, essays, novels, and drama.
2. Develop an appreciation of American literature through discussion and journaling about Catholic values, ethnic diversity, cultural and individual differences, and interdependence of people expressed in the literature
3. Interpret, compare, contrast, analyze, and evaluate American literature through writing and discussion.
4. Expand vocabulary from a study of new words in literary works.
5. Read and verbally report on two American novels, analyzing the plot, themes, settings, and main character(s) and the struggles he/she/they overcome(s).

This course is designed to expand critical thinking and reading skills through a survey of writings by major classic and contemporary American writers. Students study short stories, poetry, essays, novels, and drama. Emphasis is placed on critical analysis and personal application of literature through writing and discussion.

NUMBER:	543/544	TITLE:	Advanced Placement Language and Composition
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GRADE(S):	11	MEETING TIME	Daily
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LENGTH:	Year	CREDIT:	5 per semester
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GUIDELINE:	Honors and AP guidelines apply
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COURSE SUMMARY: The students will:

1. Acquire and use rich vocabulary in their reading and writing.
2. Utilize standard English grammar in all writing and speaking.
3. Understand and analyze an author's style in terms of diction, syntax, details, language and images.
4. Analyze the rhetoric of argumentation and compose cogent argumentative essays.
5. Complete effective and accurate research and synthesize the research in written and spoken form using proper documentation of sources.
6. Read and critically analyze complex expository, analytical, personal, and argumentative texts from a variety of authors and historical contexts.
7. Students will analyze a variety of texts in terms of an author's purpose and audience.
8. Students will write in a variety of modes and lengths and for a variety of audiences.
9. Students will compose timed, in-class essays throughout the year on a variety of topics, authors, and contexts.
10. Develop a personal writing style that recognizes the importance of and effectively utilizes:
 - a variety of sentence structures
 - logical organization
 - a balance of generalization and specific detail
 - rhetoric to control tone and establish and maintain voice
 - diction and syntax to create emphasis.

This course is the honors English for juniors. The purpose of the course is to help students write clearly and effectively across the curriculum and in their professional and personal lives. Students are expected to read complex texts, both fiction and non-fiction, to respond to them critically, to think analytically and to communicate their thinking clearly both in writing and in speech.

Upon completion of this course students will be prepared to take the Advanced Placement Language and Composition Exam in May and may earn advanced placement, college credit or both depending on their exam score.

NUMBER:	563/564	TITLE:	Written Communications
GRADE(S):	10-12	MEETING TIME	Daily
LENGTH:	Semester	CREDIT:	2.5 per semester

COURSE SUMMARY: Student will:

1. Employ sound journalism ethics in all newspaper coverage.
2. Design effective yearbook pages graphically.
3. Utilize cameras, croppers etc. in creating photographs which reflect the school year.
4. Utilize technology and software in designing yearbook pages and perfecting copy.
5. Write effective news articles, feature articles, editorials, captions, and headlines for the school newspaper and yearbook.
6. Evaluate past issues of the yearbook and newspaper in order to improve upon future issues.
7. Solve problems and resolve conflicts individually and cooperatively.
8. Demonstrate effective interview skills in gathering information for the yearbook and newspaper.

Upon completion of this course students will have employed elements of modern technology in creating the yearbook and school newspaper. This involves employing sound journalism ethics, creating effective designs and utilizing cameras, and computer equipment, writing effective articles, and resolving conflicts as they arise.

NUMBER:	551	TITLE:	Film and Literature
GRADE(S):	12	MEETING TIME	Daily
LENGTH:	Semester	CREDIT:	5 per semester

COURSE SUMMARY: The student will:

1. Analyze the impact of the author's choices regarding how to develop and relate elements of a story or drama (e.g., where a story is set, how the action is ordered, how the characters are introduced and developed).
2. Analyze how an author's choices concerning how to structure specific parts of a text (e.g., the choice of where to begin or end a story, the choice to provide a comedic or tragic resolution) contribute to its overall structure and meaning as well as its aesthetic impact.
3. Analyze a complex set of ideas or sequence of events and explain how specific individuals, ideas, or events interact and develop over the course of the text.
4. Integrate and evaluate multiple sources of information presented in different media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively) as well as in words in order to address a question or solve a problem.
5. Analyze how the director's choices (e.g. camera angle, colors, etc.) impact the film.

Communication combines the viewing, written analysis and oral discussion of a variety of films spanning all decades and genres. Students will develop an appreciation of how films function as communication, entertainment and art. Discussion and writing activities will stress analysis and evaluation. In addition, you will be expected to use film concepts and vocabulary as they explore your understanding of film.

NUMBER:	581	TITLE:	Senior Composition
GRADE(S):	12	MEETING TIME	Daily
LENGTH:	Semester	CREDIT:	5 per semester

COURSE SUMMARY: The student will:

1. Compose essays utilizing a process approach of pre-writing, writing, revising and editing.
2. Write as a means of discovering and effectively expressing and supporting ideas and opinions.
3. Assess essay writing situations to determine the purpose of the response, the intended audience, and the mode required to communicate an effective response.
4. Develop an authentic, personal writing voice and tone appropriate for various audiences and purposes.
5. Use the conventions of standard written English with skill and accuracy.
6. Polish individual writing style through precise syntax, phrasing, and diction.
7. Use available technology at appropriate stages of writing.
8. Solve problems and explore Christian values individually and cooperatively, ever mindful of responsibility of local and global communities.
9. Develop and build a vocabulary to enhance his/her writing and reading skills.
10. Compose journal entries designed to generate writing ideas and develop writing fluency.

Senior Composition prepares students for types of communication and thought essential to academic and working-world success. The course focuses on writing as a process intended to help students identify and refine their own personal writing process.

NUMBER:	585	TITLE:	Composition I–NICC*
GRADE(S):	12	MEETING TIME	Daily
LENGTH:	Semester	CREDIT:	5 per semester
GUIDELINE:	Achieve required ACCUPLACER Test score on the writing section OR qualifying ACT English score.		

*Hybrid course meets two days per week in person.

COURSE SUMMARY: The student will:

1. Write as a means of discovering and clarifying ideas.
2. Compose essays implementing a process approach of pre-writing, writing, revising, and editing.
3. Write in appropriate modes of descriptive, narrative, expository, and persuasive papers for varying purposes and audiences.
4. Develop an authentic, personal writing voice and tone appropriate for varying purposes and audiences.
5. Organize essays, which present logical progression and support through introduction, body, and conclusion.
6. Use the conventions of standard written English with skill and accuracy.
7. Polish individual writing style through precise syntax, phrasing, and diction.
8. Analyze and evaluate one's own writing and others writing through peer, writing response groups.
9. Present oneself as a learner, thinker, and writer by developing a portfolio displaying the writer's ability to analyze, synthesize, and evaluate one's own writing.

College Composition prepares students for types of communication and thought essential to academic and working-world success. The course focuses on writing as a process intended to help students identify and refine their own personal writing process.

NUMBER:	586	TITLE:	Composition II–NICC*
GRADE(S):	12	MEETING TIME	Daily
LENGTH:	Semester	CREDIT:	5 per semester

*Hybrid course meets two days per week in person.

COURSE SUMMARY: The students will:

1. Recognize and apply the principles of effective persuasion in their writing.
2. Choose a subject, limit it, find information about the subject, and report their findings.
3. Use the resources of the library, electronic databases, and other sources as needed to develop their subjects.
4. Read and take notes by quoting directly, summarizing, or paraphrasing.
5. Recognize what constitutes plagiarism and understand its consequences.
6. Document information with correct use of quotations and references.
7. Use acceptable MLA or APA format for title page, outline or abstract, pagination, margins, documentation, and works cited or reference pages.
8. Eliminate errors in person, tense, voice, and pronoun reference from their writing.
9. Eliminate redundancies and dangling construction from their writing.

Composition II is a writing course that focuses on writing as a process with emphasis on persuasion, evaluation, analysis, investigation, research, and documentation of sources. The course will include reinforcement of the process of composing, methods of development, aspects of style, and accuracy of expression. Opportunity will be provided for students to write and evaluate research papers.

NUMBER:	590	TITLE:	Public Speaking-NICC*
GRADE(S):	12	MEETING TIME	Daily
LENGTH:	Semester	CREDIT:	5 per semester

*Hybrid course meets two days per week in person.

This introductory course emphasizes actual speaking experiences with practice choosing subjects, analyzing audiences, and preparing and delivering a variety of extemporaneous speeches. Opportunity will be given to develop skills in listening and group discussion.