

The English Department

Douglas Russell - Chair

Teresa Aurigemma

Dave Fortier

Jillian Barry

Heather Morgan

Brenna Conrad

Cara Persico

Ellen King

Brian Wilcox

- The 9th grade survey course focuses on grammar, mechanics, writing skills and literature selections.
- The 10th grade survey course introduces students to a wide variety of fiction, poetry and non-fiction selections.
- 11th Grade Academic and General level students take American Literature first semester, and a comprehensive writing course second semester.
- Senior students may take a variety of electives where they can build on the foundations of the previous three years.

Courses include: Shakespeare, Modern Poetry and Drama, Readings in Philosophy, Modern Fiction, Journalism, Authors I, Film and Literature, Cultural Heritage, World Literature, Media Literacy and Literature: Reflections on Life.

Honors Program

9th and 10th grade survey courses are offered at the Honors level. 11th and 12th grade electives that are available to Honors students are listed below.

Courses include: Development of Drama and American Literature junior year and British Literature and Fiction Masters senior year.

AP Offerings

Currently, students are offered AP Language and Composition in their junior or senior years.

AP Literature and Composition is available to seniors only.

New Textbooks

A new 10th grade program, Pearson's *My Perspectives* has been implemented at the Academic and General level.

A new composition textbook, *They Say, I Say*, is now used in the Academic and General level composition courses. This breakthrough program helps students model academic writing and prepares them for critical writing in all disciplines.

Department Initiatives

For the 2020-2021 school year, the English Department has been focused on integrating vocabulary instruction at all grade levels in conjunction with SAT skill development.

Honors Summer Reading Prerequisite

All Honors and AP level English students are now required to complete summer prerequisite reading. Each course has a specific novel to read and detailed note taking requirements.

Each year, when students return to school in August, they should be ready to actively discuss and complete assignments related to this text.

Electing to take Honors and AP level courses at the high school level requires dedication, hard work and determination. This prerequisite reading is meant to prepare students for the rigor of this advanced material as well as introduce them to the workload of these courses.

Additionally, it provides teachers with the unique opportunity to teach a novel with full context.

Core Texts - Grades 9-12

The Catcher in the Rye

To Kill a Mockingbird

Lord of the Flies

Romeo and Juliet

Night

Of Mice and Men

The Kite Runner

Macbeth

Death of a Salesman

The Crucible

The Great Gatsby

Hamlet

Oedipus Rex

The Stranger

Animal Farm

The Things They Carried

Brave New World

1984