



LANGUAGE ARTS 7

Full Year	1 credit	Grade 7
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Students in this class study a variety of literary genres including poetry and drama. Students are introduced to literary terms and their applications. Some novels are chosen to develop an interdisciplinary study between Language Arts and Social Studies. Students are encouraged to express creativity and show an appreciation of reading through various projects. In addition, spelling rules are reviewed and students are encouraged to apply them across the curriculum.

WRITING 7

One Semester	½ credit	Grade 7
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The primary focus of this course is to show students the process of writing while examining different styles of writing. Students will be taught how to write persuasively, descriptively, informatively and creatively. In addition, students will practice the skills necessary to edit their own work and act as peer editors for their classmates. Studies in grammar and work in a structured vocabulary program are also part of this course offering.

LANGUAGE ARTS 8

Full Year	1 credit	Grade 8
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This course is a continuation of Language Arts 7. Students will continue their study of a variety of literary genres and begin to develop higher-level vocabulary and critical thinking skills. Major emphasis is placed on development of writing skills, including proper structure, grammar, and spelling. This course also includes concentrated study in the areas of reading comprehension, listening, note taking, and essay writing.

ENGLISH 9

Full Year	1 credit	Grade 9
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Students in English 9 begin to apply a more critical analysis to literature in a variety of forms: drama, poetry, short story, novel, and essay. Attention is given to vocabulary, both within the literature and the vocabulary program. The course also emphasizes the skills of written composition, sentence structure, usage and spelling. Public speaking and presentation skills are developed continuously throughout the course.

ENGLISH 9 HONORS

Full Year	1 credit	Grade 9
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In addition to the topics in English 9, this honors level course will engage students in extensive reading, writing, and critical thinking activities. Students must demonstrate high levels of motivation, organization, and independence on a variety of essays, research projects, oral presentations, and creative writing assignments. Students will be expected to regularly participate in class discussions and activities.

WRITING 9

One Semester	½ credit	Grade 9
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Writing 9 is a one semester intensive writing course taught in a workshop format. Through continued practice, students will produce various writing samples, including persuasive, expository, narrative, and creative pieces. The course will also include development of editorial skills necessary for advanced studies and a continuous review of grammar.



ENGLISH 10

Full Year	1 credit	Grade 10
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The primary focus of this course is the critical interpretation of literature through the reading of novels, short stories, dramas, poems, and pieces of nonfiction. In addition, students will learn how to write literary criticism with an emphasis upon the actual writing process of a critical essay. Public speaking skills continue to be refined at this level through the development of persuasive and informative speeches, which are presented to the class.

ENGLISH 10 HONORS

Full Year	1 credit	Grade 10
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In addition to the basic curriculum for English 10, this course combines literature and grammar with an intensive program in reading. Students are engaged in a variety of reading assignments, exposing them to many diverse authors and writing styles. Writing skills are stressed, with a particular emphasis on critical essays. In addition, speaking skills are further developed with a focus on persuasive speeches and informative presentations.

AMERICAN LITERATURE

Full Year	1 credit	Grade 11
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English 11 surveys American literature and acquaints students with works arranged chronologically within a historical context. Students read several works of extended fiction and drama. They are required to write a full length research paper. Vocabulary is studied with each work in addition to preparation for the Scholastic Aptitude Test. The writing process is addressed through a variety of strategies, which may include the use of writing handbooks, journals, portfolios, and computer technology.

AMERICAN LITERATURE HONORS

Full Year	1 credit	Grade 11
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This course, like English 11, is a survey of American literature, but requires the reading of several additional works of fiction and drama, which are covered at length and in-depth. Frequent analytical papers are assigned, as well as a full-length research paper. Creative projects and assignments include interdisciplinary research, community-based writing projects, and the study of film as it is related to literature. Speaking skills are developed through small group and individual class presentations.

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP)
LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION**

Full Year	1 credit	Grade 11
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The AP English Language and Composition course is a college-level course aimed at improving students' reading and rhetorical skills. Students will study the interactions between the writer's purposes, audience expectations, and subjects, as well as the way generic conventions and the resources of language contribute to effective writing. This AP course emphasizes expository, analytical, and argumentative writing, as well as reflective writing that fosters the ability to write in any context.

BRITISH LITERATURE

Full Year	1 credit	Grade 12
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This is a survey of British literature from the Anglo-Saxon period through the Twentieth Century. The literature of each period is presented in its particular social and political context. Writing emphasis is on the short response essay, with formal writing style the primary focus. Students will do library research and practice the MLA Style Sheet format. Speaking exercises include the persuasive speech, the presentation of literary research, and oral interpretation of literature. Students are required to complete a major research paper.

ENGLISH 12 HONORS - LIVING SHAKESPEARE

Full Year	1 credit	Grade 12
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Living Shakespeare serves as the Honors level English class for seniors. The course is as the name implies – a year-long immersion into Shakespeare’s world through an active approach. Areas of study span a wide range: Shakespeare’s life; the cultural, social, and political climate of Elizabethan England; theatre in Shakespeare’s time; with emphasis on Shakespeare’s primary playhouses; Shakespeare on film, including alternative productions of Shakespeare’s plays; a look at Shakespeare’s writing contemporaries, the comedies; the tragedies; the historical/political plays; and the sonnets. Students will conduct research, develop a college-level writing style, and think critically. Most importantly, students will engage in the study of Shakespeare in a lively manner that will lead to an intimate understanding of his works and an appreciation for his artistry.

CREATIVE WRITING

Full Year	1 credit	Grade 12
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The creative writing course has the development of student creative writing as its center. Students are expected to devote themselves to becoming better writers and poets. To achieve this, the course involves the study of writing as a craft as well as the reading, analysis, and discussion of literature and poetry spanning several eras. Requirements include, but are not limited to, a personal writing portfolio and attendance at readings and lectures held in the community.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

Full Year	1 credit	Grade 12
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Advanced Placement English Literature engages students in the careful reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature. Through the close reading of texts from several genres from the sixteenth to the twenty-first centuries, students deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their readers. As they read, students consider a work’s structure, style and themes as well as such smaller scale elements as the use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone. Enrollment in this class signifies that a student has qualified for and has chosen to forego 12th Grade English, and wishes to take a college level literature and composition class. The course culminates in students taking the AP Exam.

