

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

Title: *ENGLISH 1*

Grade Level: 9

Credit: One

Length of Course:

One Year

Content: Freshman English develops essential skills in close reading, accurate writing, and an introduction to research. Course content studies the various genres of short story, drama, novel, and non-fiction. The course challenges students to improve their narrative and expository writing skills in preparation for the persuasive essay.

Activities: Daily homework assignments, lectures, cooperative group activities, and Writing Center usage incorporating a variety of written compositions.

Out of Class Time Required: Two to three hours per week.

Evaluation: The student will be evaluated on daily assignments, quizzes, tests, writings, and participation in class activities/projects.

Title: *READING STRATEGIES*

Grade Level: 9

Credit: One

Length of Course: One

Year

Content: This course focuses on developing strands of literacy; fluency, vocabulary, comprehension strategies, and sustained silent reading. Instruction will provide explicit modeling of strategies and skills that good readers employ.

Activities: Sustained Silent Reading, Journaling, Book Talks, Vocabulary Work, and Fluency Practice.

Out of Class Time Required: None

Evaluation: The student will be evaluated on daily assignments, journals, book talks and participation in class activities/projects.

Title: *ENGLISH 2*

Grade Level: 10

Credit: One

Length of Course: One

Year

Prerequisite: English 1

Content: Sophomore English reinforces and expands the knowledge and skills learned in English I. Critical reading of literary genres helps develop skills on both the literal and interpretive levels with particular attention to higher level inferences. A strong focus for this year is the mastery of compositional skills demonstrating mastery of organization, support, fluency, and mechanics. The course includes research writing that demonstrates the student's skills in grammar, synthesis, and citation.

Activities: Reading, discussion, group work, writing, and exercises in grammar and vocabulary.

Out of Class Time Required: Two to four hours per week.

Evaluation: Class participation, quizzes, tests, essays, and the research based paper.

Title: *ENGLISH 3*

Grade Level: 11

Credit: One

Length of Course: One

year

Prerequisite: English 1, English 2

Content: Junior English is a thematic study of chronological units in American literature and American values. Texts, class discussions, and projects will focus on the rich cultural, philosophical, and political diversity of a people trying to realize their dreams. Emphasis of study will be on the proof of an arguable thesis and the development of persuasive arguments; attention will be paid to the development of a cogent and clear style. Analytical research relevant to American culture will reflect emphases of grammatical mastery, vocabulary study, oral communication skills, and word processing.

Activities: Lectures, group discussions, critical thinking activities, vocabulary, grammar, writing assignments, and oral communication skills.

Out of Class Time Required: Three hours per week.

Evaluation: Group discussions, worksheets, writing assignments, objective tests, and class participation.

Title: *ENGLISH 4*

Grade Level: 12

Credit: One

Length of Course:

One year

Prerequisite: English 1, English 2, English 3

Content: World literature in all genres and the study of the essay in various forms will be covered. Students will improve their writing skills and study grammar as it pertains to the writing process. Cross-curriculum projects will be encouraged. The course design accommodates the student who is pursuing future vocational or collegiate study after graduation; goals of the course are to improve the student's proficiency in writing, reading, and discussion.

Activities: Reading, writing, speaking, and project

Out of Class Time Required: Three to four hours per week

Evaluation: Tests, quizzes, writing, and projects

Title: *ACCELERATED ENGLISH 1*

Grade Level: 9 **Credit:** One **Length of Course:** One year

Prerequisite: Accelerated English in middle school is encouraged, but not required.

Content: This is a course in reading and writing that is highly recommended for students who plan to enroll in AP (Advanced Placement) courses as upperclassmen, particularly English Language and/or Literature. Students will read Pulitzer and Nobel authors; focus on literary elements and devices (such as characterization and metaphor) will be studied in-depth. Learning to write persuasively in all modes (comparison, contrast, cause-effect, etc.) is a primary objective. The class will participate in critical discussions that reflect responsibility in reading assignments.

Activities: Daily homework assignments including reading, research, and writing, as well as in-class journals and discussion.

Out of Class Time Required: Five to seven hours per week

Evaluation: Tests, written papers, participation, and in-class journals.

Title: ACCELERATED ENGLISH 2

Grade Level: 10 **Credit:** One **Length of Course:** One year

Prerequisite: Accelerated English 1 (Encouraged but not required)

Content: This is the second level course in the Accelerated Language Arts sequence. Students who plan to enroll in AP (Advanced Placement) courses as upperclassmen, particularly English Language and/or Literature should take this course. The class will continue to read Pulitzer and Nobel authors as a basis for learning to write persuasive essays. Class work will include a study of grammar (coordinate and subordinate syntax) that enables keener analysis in reading and writing. Assignments in vocabulary, research, and speaking accompany weekly activities.

Activities: Daily homework assignments include reading, research, writing, and oral discussion.

Out of Class Time Required: Six to eight hours per week

Evaluation: Tests, written papers, participation, and speaking skills.

Title: FUNDAMENTALS OF ENGLISH

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Bilingual staff/Counselor Referral, ACCESS test

Content: The focus of this class is on the basic communication skills, which include listening, speaking, understanding, and writing in the English language. Primary emphasis is in the area of language structure (grammar), the mastery of correct spelling and basic vocabulary. Students will develop essential skills to

help them gain access to the core curriculum and culture of the school and community setting.

Activities: Reading, writing, speaking, lecture

Out of Class Time Required: One to two hours per week

Evaluation: Tests, written papers, participation and speaking skills

* * * * *

Title: PUBLICATIONS 1

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Credit: One-half

Length of Course:

One Year

Prerequisite: None

Content: This course will focus on the communication and technical skills required to publish the school newspaper and the literary magazine. The fundamentals of writing news articles, editorials, and feature stories will be taught. Information gathering tools covered will include interviewing and searching both paper and electronic files. Students will also learn basic photography and the Quark Xpress 2007 computer program used for layout of both publications.

Activities: Students will plan and design the content of the school newspaper and literary magazine, develop that content, refine it, and publish it. That process will require working in small groups, researching topics, writing and editing stories, photographing subjects, and laying out all the components of each publication.

Out of Class Time Required: As assigned by Instructor

Evaluation: Students will be evaluated on their ability to work with others, on the number of assignments completed, on the thoroughness of their work, and on the quality of the finished products. At the end of each term, a portfolio of each student's work will largely determine his or her grade.

Title: PUBLICATIONS 2

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Credit: One-half

Length of Course:

One Year

Prerequisite: Publications 1

Content: This course will focus on the communication and technical skills required to publish the school newspaper and the literary magazine. The fundamentals of writing news articles, editorials, and feature stories will be taught. Information gathering tools covered will include interviewing and searching both paper and electronic files. Students will also learn basic photography and the Quark Xpress 2007 computer program used for layout of both publications.

Activities: Students will be placed in leadership role as an editor of the school newspaper and/or the literary magazine. Students will also work to gather advertisements from community business and area and school clubs and organizations. Students will work independently on assigned tasks and should

be self-motivated and deadline oriented to more realistically experience life in the world of an everyday news source.

Out of Class Time Required: As assigned by Instructor

Evaluation: Students will be evaluated on their ability to work with others, on the number of assignments completed, on the thoroughness of their work, and on the quality of the finished products. At the end of each term, a portfolio of each student's work will largely determine his or her grade.

Title: **ADVANCED PLACEMENT LANGUAGE & COMPOSITION**

Grade Level: 11, 12 **Credit:** One (weighted) **Length of Course:**

One year

Prerequisite: Completed two years of English

Content: Students will learn to write critical compositions drawn from literature. The focus of these timed compositions will be reactions to an author's purpose, style, and use of rhetorical devices. Students will read a minimum of ten novels, two plays, and a diverse selection of essays, short stories, and poems. The readings will be primarily American literature from Romanticism to Post-modernism. Students who enroll in the course will meet with the instructor prior to the fall session to receive a summer reading list and writing assignment. The course addresses the Illinois State Standards and National Advanced Placement Standards. Students may be granted college credit depending on the score they receive on the AP exam given in the spring and the policy of the university in which they enroll. This course will require a commitment to improving reading, writing, and grammar skills.

Activities: Reading, writing, large and small group discussions, film analysis, independent projects, group projects.

Out of Class Time Required: One to two hours per day

Evaluation: Tests, class discussion, compositions, and daily discussion.

Title: **ADVANCED PLACEMENT ENGLISH LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION**

Grade Level: 12 **Credit:** One (weighted) **Length** **of**

Course: One year

Prerequisite: AP Language

Content: Students will learn to write compositions drawn from literature. Students will write timed compositions as often as once every two weeks. Students will learn to evaluate these papers. Students will write take-home papers. Students will read 6 to 8 novels, 2 to 4 plays, and a large selection of poetry and short stories. The literature will be selected from different centuries, but 50% will be culled from the 20th century. Students will read two novels and write a paper in the summer to be prepared for the beginning of school. The course addresses the Illinois State Standards and National Advanced Placement Standards. Students may be granted college credit depending on the score they receive on the AP exam given in the spring and the policy of the university in which they enroll. The workload and quality of work will be demanding. The goal of this course is to develop independence in learning as well as the ability to be interdependent in group work.

Activities: Reading, writing, large and small group discussions, film analysis, independent projects, group projects.

Out of Class Time Required: One to two hours per day

Evaluation: Done by students themselves and the instructor

DUAL ENROLLED ENGLISH

NOTE: *Students are responsible for payment of tuition and purchase of textbooks.*

Title: *ENG 101 – COMPOSITION 1*

Grade Level: 12 **Credit:** One-half **Length of Course:** One Semester

Content: A basic course in essay writing with emphasis on exposition, English 101 stresses knowledge and application of the rhetorical modes. English 101 presupposes competence in grammar, usage, and mechanics.

Prerequisite: ACT standard score in English of 18 or above; suitable scores on the current English placement test, or grade of “C” or higher in English 100.

Credit: 3 semester hours of college credit from Sauk Valley Community College.

Title: *ENG 103 – COMPOSITION 2*

Grade Level: 12 **Credit:** One-half **Length of Course:** One Semester

Content: An advanced course in essay writing with emphasis on formal research, English 103 serves to develop a proficiency in the collection and selection of data as applied to the completion of a formal research paper. In

addition, students receive instruction in logic and reasoning, including the fundamentals of argumentative and persuasive writing.

Prerequisite: A grade of "C" or higher in English 101 or its equivalent.

Credit: 3 semester hours of college credit from Sauk Valley Community College.