

## ENGLISH

**All English Courses** will incorporate the performance indicators for that particular grade level as prescribed by the NY State ELA Standards. These standards state that all students will read, write, speak, and listen for information and understanding, for literary response and expression, for critical analysis and evaluation, and for social interaction.

**All Honors English Courses:** Students in Grades 8-11 will be screened, based on academic ability and motivation, for Honors English and AP English recommendations by their English teacher. Students recommended must complete a grade-appropriate project during the summer months to be presented on the first day of the school in the fall. Students failing to complete this prerequisite project by that date will be rescheduled in Regents English class.

**English 9R-C** **Full Year** **1 Credit**

This course provides fundamental instruction in sentence structure, paragraph development, and organizational skills, as well as literature comprehension. Students will read novels with broad universal themes, as well as selected essays, poetry, and short stories. Basic preparation for the ELA exam will begin.

**English 9R** **Full Year** **1 Credit**

This course includes advanced instruction in paragraph and essay development emphasizing structure, unity, coherence, and organization. Major emphasis is placed on improvement of critical thinking and writing and reading skills in preparation for the ELA exam. Each student is expected to do extensive outside reading and oral presentations.

**English 9 Honors** **Full Year** **1 Credit**

This course is designed for the highly motivated students. It includes advanced instruction in paragraph and essay development emphasizing structure, unity, coherence, and organization. Major emphasis is placed on the improvement of critical thinking and reading and writing skills in preparation for the ELA exam. Each student is expected to do extensive outside reading and several oral presentations.

**English 10R & 10C** **Full Year** **1 Credit**

Various genres of literature will be analyzed and discussed in both written and oral form, according to students' abilities. Writing activities that are required on the ELA exam will be stressed. Oral presentations are required.

**English 10 Honors** **Full Year** **1 Credit**

This course is designed for the highly motivated student. It includes an in-depth study of major literary forms with an emphasis on the improvement of critical reading, thinking, and writing in preparation for the ELA exam, as well as research skills. Each student is expected to do extensive outside reading and several oral presentations.

**English 11R-C** **Full Year** **1 Credit**

This course is designed to aid students in improving basic thinking, reading, and writing skills. Special emphasis is directed toward skills needed for the NYS ELA exam. Oral presentation is a requirement.

**English 11R** **Full Year** **1 Credit**

Major emphasis is on the analysis of works from American literature and the preparation for the January ELA exam. Hamlet is also studied. Requirement: research paper and oral presentation.

**English 11 Honors****Full Year****1 Credit**

English 11 Honors is designed for the highly motivated student. It includes an in-depth study of American literature and its relationship to American history with an emphasis on critical and analytical skills. Each student is expected to do extensive outside reading and writing as well as several oral presentations. ELA exam is taken in January.

**Creative Writing****One Semester****½ Credit**

Creative Writing is designed to encourage experimental and free expression in written form and to encourage those students with any interest in publishing written work. Students will be encouraged to keep an idea file/journal/portfolio. Types of writing may include poetry, short story, plays, and skits/scenes, descriptive writing, sensory writing and humorous essays such as satire, parody, and irony.

**Oral Communication****One Semester****½ Credit**

Oral Communication is designed to develop the students' practical speaking skills as well as public speaking skills. Practical speaking skills may include introductions, problem-solving conversations, telephone answering, direction giving, job interviewing, and story telling. Oral interpretation of literature and dramatic interpretation may also be included. Public speaking activities may include group discussion in the forms of a panel or symposium, demonstration speech, informative speech, or persuasive speech.

**English Multimedia I****One Semester****½ Credit**

English Multimedia I is designed to develop the students' knowledge and skills in radio, television, film, print media, and computer-related media. Text materials include historical and legal issues affecting the Information Age. Student interest will be directed toward projects in video production, journalistic writing, and other areas in mass media and communications.

**English Multimedia II****One Semester****½ Credit**

English Multimedia II will continue to develop the skills acquired in Multimedia I, while working in new projects and/or projects begun during Multimedia I. Students will assume a leadership role in projects undertaken by the combined Media I and II classes.

**Yearbook 11-12****Full Year****1 Credit**

This course, designed to produce the Peru yearbook in a classroom environment, involves all aspects of yearbook production and is open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors. Grading will be based on quizzes, critiques, and various exercises dealing with the yearbook production. Extra time after class will be required as yearbook deadlines approach.

**Drama****One Semester****½ Credit**

Drama is designed to expose students to all aspects of drama with an emphasis on group interaction through acting and participation in theatre production. Students will be exposed to improvisation, pantomime, voice development, acting, and directing, as well as to varieties and structures of drama and to evaluation of drama. Students will also be exposed to technical aspects of theatre and will be introduced to theatre history.

**Seniors must take a minimum of two (2) English 12 classes. Depending on the English 12 classes that are offered, a student needs to select a first semester English 12 class and a second semester English 12 class. The Core Course requirement each semester focuses on different skills and materials.**

**CORE Course (included within each credit-bearing semester course)**

Upon leaving the comfort of high school, students often feel overwhelmed by the multitude of tasks placed before them in the real world. Life after high school includes the demands of college expectations on time, organization and writing skills, or the world of work with its own set of standards and expectations.

Communicate, Organize, and Reflect Effectively (**CORE**) is an 8-week writing seminar designed to provide every grade 12 student with exposure to post-high school level study in the writing process involving timely topics such as resume building, application and scholarship essay writing, and formal letter writing. Students will learn time management and organizational techniques to help prepare them to become high school graduates. Research techniques using MLA format and discussions on plagiarism and bias will be covered during this course as well. Classroom activities will include journaling, composition, discussion, group work, and exploration of school and community media/library facilities. Representative pieces of student writing will be entered into the Senior Portfolio.

Fall semester of every English 12 course will begin with the **CORE** course for 5 weeks. Spring semester of every English 12 course will begin with the **CORE** course for 3 weeks. Students must complete each segment of the **CORE** course in order to have satisfied English 12 requirements for course credit.

The remaining 2 weeks of spring semester will be utilized for Senior Portfolio compilation and assessment.

**1. English 12: Basic Composition and Comprehension I     One Semester     ½ Credit**

Basic Composition and Comprehension is a semester course for those students who have not yet met the New York State testing requirements for high school graduation. Emphasis will be placed on skill development and improvement in reading and writing through various units of literary study. Students will be exposed to both fiction and non-fiction pieces by a range of authors. Students will be required to complete informal, informational, literary response, critical analysis, and creative writing activities concerning pop culture/biographical topics. Speaking and listening activities, as well as peer interaction and feedback are incorporated into a variety of assignments. Computer skills and technological connections are included in each unit of study. Representative pieces of student writing will be entered into the Senior Portfolio.

Students who successfully complete the testing requirements for graduation need not take the second half of the course, and must choose another semester course from second semester offerings in order to receive one full English 12 credit.

**2. English 12: Basic Composition and Comprehension II     One Semester     ½ Credit**

Basic Composition and Comprehension is a semester course for those students who have not yet met the New York State testing requirements for high school graduation. Emphasis will be placed on skill development and improvement in reading and writing through various units of literary study. Students will be exposed to both fiction and non-fiction pieces by a range of authors. Students will be required to complete informal, informational, literary response, critical analysis, and creative writing activities concerning pop culture/biographical topics. Speaking and listening activities, as well as peer interaction and feedback are incorporated into a variety of assignments. Computer skills and technological connections are included in each unit of study. Representative pieces of student writing will be entered into the Senior Portfolio.

Successful completion of both Basic Composition and Comprehension I and II constitute a full English 12 credit toward graduation. Other courses are not necessary, but may be taken at the request of the student, provided space is available in the student's daily schedule.

**3. English 12: Contemporary Fiction                     One Semester                     ½ Credit**



Sports Literature is a semester course that asks the student to evaluate his/her own values and principles by relating to the judgments, decisions, and actions he/she finds in the literature of sports. Course readings will include both fiction and non-fiction pieces by a range of authors. Students will be required to complete informal, informational, literary response, critical analysis, and creative writing activities concerning sports literature. Speaking and listening activities, as well as peer interaction and feedback are incorporated into a variety of assignments. Computer skills and technological connections are emphasized. In addition to daily assignments and reading, each student is required to do an independent, individual research-based project involving some aspect of sports. Representative pieces of student writing will be entered into the Senior Portfolio.

**8. English 12: World Literature**

**One Semester**

**½ Credit**

More than ever before, in this age of rapid technological advances, literature transcends man-made physical and cultural barriers, and provides the reader with a global identity. The stories that explain, reveal, and inspire the human experience create the vehicle by which we are able to travel the world and learn from each other.

World Literature is a semester course that approaches myths, legends, as well as classic works of literature from around the world, as insights into the way people from cultures other than our own think and live. Course readings will include both fiction and non-fiction pieces by a range of authors. Students will be required to complete informal, informational, literary response, critical analysis, and creative writing activities concerning world literature. Speaking and listening activities, as well as peer interaction and feedback are incorporated into a variety of assignments. Computer skills and technological connections are emphasized. In addition to daily assignments and reading, each student is required to do an independent, individual research-based project involving some aspect of world literature. Representative pieces of student writing will be entered into the Senior Portfolio.

**AP English 11**

**Full Year**

**1 Credit**

AP is a challenging course for the highly motivated student. Students will read and discuss a variety of works from English and American Literature and will write sophisticated analytical papers to these works. Requirement: AP exam in May. Prerequisite: Summer reading project and English Department recommendations.