

LANGUAGE ARTS COURSES

Note: Of the four English credits required for graduation, a student must take one senior English course, which includes a senior project. If a student needs to take more than one English course during their senior year, that student may enroll in only one senior English course. The other English credits must be earned by enrolling in junior course offerings.

English course required of all freshmen:

ENGLISH I

Full Year/Required
9

English I is an introductory course designed to build study skills, organization skills, and communication skills through the reading of various genres of literature. In addition to focusing on reading skills and vocabulary development, equal emphasis will be given to developing writing skills. Students will concentrate on writing effective sentences, move to developing paragraphs, and finally work on writing multi-paragraph essays.

In place of English I, those who qualify may take the following course:

ENGLISH I (HONORS)

Full Year
9

This is an accelerated English I class for high achievers. Those basic skills listed for English I are fully developed while learning is extended to the highest abstract thinking level the students can master. (Students must meet the honor standards set by the Language Arts Department to qualify for the course.) **Credit in this course applies toward the Honors Diploma.**

English course required of all sophomores:

ENGLISH II

Full Year/Required
10

English II is a course that further develops the skills taught in English I in connection with literature and writing. Students will receive instruction in reading skills, writing, literature, vocabulary, speaking, listening and acquiring information. A major focus in the course will be writing essays. Students will also complete a major research project.

In place of English II, those who qualify may take the following course:

ENGLISH II (HONORS)

Full Year
10

This is an accelerated English II class for high achievers. Those basic skills listed for the English II course are fully developed while learning is extended to the highest abstract thinking level the students can master. (Students must meet the honors standards set by the Language Arts Department to qualify for the course.) **Credit in this course applies toward the Honors Diploma.**

English courses, open to juniors and seniors, that fulfill English requirements: (Courses marked with an asterisk (*) are recommended for those students who plan on attending college.)

NOTE: As part of the senior English class, students will be required to complete a Senior Project. This Senior Project provides students an opportunity to demonstrate the skills and knowledge they have accumulated during their years in high school and to apply these to an area of their interest. During the second semester of the English course, students will produce the four main components of this assignment: a research paper, a student-directed project, a portfolio, and a presentation about the project. Each component is important to the overall success of the Senior Project, and each must be satisfactorily completed for a student to pass the senior English course.

***AMERICAN LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION**

Full Year
12

Through critical analysis, students will trace the development of American literature, its themes and movements, from inception to present times by reading and interpreting novels, short stories, poetry, drama, and nonfiction essays. From these works, college level vocabulary will be studied. In addition, through a variety of writing assignments, students will concentrate on literary analysis and review elements of composition, usage, and mechanics. Students will complete a Senior Project as a part of this class. Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation. **Credit in this course applies toward the Honors Diploma.**

CREATIVE WRITING

Semester/Full Year

11 12*

This course is a study of different modes of writing. Students will read and write various forms of poetry, short stories, plays, and personal narrative essays. A research paper using MLA guidelines will be required. Literary elements will be discussed and analyzed in depth, both in selected readings and student works. Conventions of grammar will be covered. Students will also be required to read novels independently. (***Seniors must also be enrolled in a class with a Senior Project requirement.**)

ENGLISH III

Semester/Full Year

11

Students in this course will study many elements of writing and experience various works of literature and nonfiction. Students will also continue their study and review of grammar and other English topics. They will be exposed to many topics they can use in their careers and further educational pursuits including oral communication, various writing genres, and specific skills needed to succeed.

ENGLISH IV

Semester/Full Year

12

The first semester of English IV will focus on building skills for the senior project. Skills emphasized will be sentence structure, paragraph structure, essay writing, letter writing, punctuation, researching, and public speaking. Second semester will focus on the senior project in which students write a research paper, create a project and present it to a panel of teachers, community members, and parents. Additionally, English IV students will read various novels, including outside reading requirements.

***AP ENG. LITERATURE:
SENIORS**

Full Year

12

Advanced Placement Literature is designed for college-bound students who have demonstrated mastery of the English curricula. The course will emphasize the critical analysis of novels, plays, short stories, poetry, and essays by major authors. Essays will explore different strategies for discussing literature. In addition, students will continue to develop their speaking, listening, and critical thinking skills. An Advanced Placement Contract **must** be signed in order to take the class. Students will be **required** to complete a summer assignment. Students **must** take the Advanced Placement Exam in May. The Advanced Placement Exam fee is approximately \$90, which is non-refundable and **must** be paid by the end of the first quarter. **Students may gain college credit by passing the Advanced Placement Examination. Credit in this course applies toward the Honors Diploma. Lab/Exam Fee: Approximately \$90.**

***AP ENG. LANGUAGE:
JUNIORS**

Full Year

11

Advanced Placement English Language is designed for college-bound students who have already attained the reading and writing skills generally expected in a freshman college course in composition. The course involves the critical reading and written analysis of literature. In addition, students will continue to develop their speaking, listening and critical thinking skills. This is a college-level course for high school credit. An Advanced Placement Contract **must** be signed in order to take the class. Students will be **required** to complete a summer assignment. Students **must** take the Advanced Placement Exam in May. The Advanced Placement Exam fee is approximately \$90, which is non-refundable and **must** be paid by the end of the first quarter. Prerequisite: Students must have a B or better in **all** previous English classes and a recommendation from the English II teacher. **Students may gain college credit by passing the Advanced Placement Examination. Credit in this course applies toward the Honors Diploma. Lab/Exam Fee: Approximately \$90.**

**MEDIA AND
COMMUNICATIONS**

Semester/Full Year

11

This course analyzes the nature of the communication media of our times: advertising, newspaper, radio, television, sound, film, and the internet. The course focuses on the critical analysis of media with emphasis on how these media operate and how they influence society's values. Students work with the various media in both group and individual projects. Included is the study of at least one major novel. Writing skills are emphasized in development of analytical essays, student scripts, critical reviews of films, and a research paper/project at the end of the year.

ENGLISH 1A

Full Year

9 10

(Enrollment in this class is done by counselor/teacher placement only.)

This class is designed to improve basic reading and writing skills. This course utilizes the Scholastic Read 180 Program – an intensive reading, intervention program designed to meet the needs of students whose reading achievement is below grade level. The program directly addresses individual needs through adaptive and instructional software, high interest literature, and direct instruction on reading strategies. In addition to focusing on reading skills and vocabulary development, students will develop writing skills. Students will focus on writing effective sentences and move to developing paragraphs and multi-paragraph essays. Students will also review and study basic skills in grammar and mechanics. Students enrolled in this course are required to enroll in an associated English/Reading A Lab for elective credit. Teacher recommendation, MAP scores, and student Lexile test scores will determine enrollment.

ENGLISH 1B

Full Year

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(Enrollment in this class is done by counselor/teacher placement only.)

This course further develops those skills taught in English/Reading A. Read 180 Program is continued with the FLEX series containing new workshops and vocabulary. In addition to focusing on reading skills and vocabulary development, students will continue to develop writing skills. Students will focus paragraph development and multi-paragraph essays. Students will also continue to review and study basic skills in grammar and mechanics. Students enrolled in this course are required to enroll in an associated English Reading B Lab for elective credit. Teacher recommendation, MAP scores, and student Lexile test scores will determine enrollment. Prerequisite: English/Reading A.

READING/VOCABULARY DEVELOPMENT

Full Year

11

In this intensive college-preparatory course, students will develop reading skills through the reading and critical analysis of short stories, novels, drama, and nonfiction material. In addition, students will build vocabulary with emphasis on word clues, contexts, and proper word usage. Reviewing elements of composition, usage, and mechanics, students will write essays requiring literary analysis and a research paper using MLA guidelines. This course is recommended for students who are preparing to take the ACT and/or SAT tests. Prerequisite: An average of B or higher in all English courses taken for students enrolling in the course or approval of department chair.

***RHETORIC/
PERSUASION**

Full Year

11 12

This college preparatory, in-depth study of the techniques of writing emphasizes logic and critical thinking as applied to formal student writing. The students will prepare a college-type research paper and pursue an intensive review of mechanics, grammar, and usage for college entrance. Additionally, students will read in a variety of literary genres for the purpose of analysis. Seniors in Rhetoric will complete a Senior Project. Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation. **This course applies toward the Honors Diploma for Juniors only.**

**SCIENCE FICTION/
FANTASY
LITERATURE**

Semester/Full Year

12

In the first semester of this course, students read science fiction and fantasy novels and short stories tracing the evolution of each genre and emphasizing themes that help people to anticipate, accept and prepare for the future and themes that look at the hero and the quest. In the second semester students will study the evolution of both the supernatural/horror and mystery story. In both, students will examine social issues and human conditions. Throughout the year students will write essays and participate in cooperative learning projects. Students will complete a Senior Project as part of this curriculum.

NONFICTION WRITING

Full Year

11

Sometimes known as literary journalism, this English course for juniors is the study and practice of the various kinds of writing that is popular in the media. In this course, students will learn how to write the different nonfiction styles that can include the “hard” news found in online and print newspapers and magazines; feature writing that can focus on individual personalities or events; essays that discuss pertinent topics; opinion pieces, which can take the form of columns, blogs, or publishable letters and editorials. While this class meets English graduation requirements, writings produced by individuals of the class can be submitted to the school’s Publications class for consideration in either CHS’s online newspaper or CHS’s print yearbook. Students in this class may be interested in also enrolling in the elective Publications course, although it is not required. Students in this class must be mature, self-motivated and interested in writing.

Other Language Arts Courses: (The courses listed below do not fulfill English credit requirements but they may be taken for elective credit.)

BEGINNING PUBLICATIONS

Full Year

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This elective course, opened to freshmen through seniors, provides an introduction to web and print publications through the production of the school’s online newspaper, *The Senator News*, and *Carneta*, the school’s yearbook. This student-driven class trains the publication staff in various aspects of publishing, including news writing, feature writing, editing, layout and design, interviewing, marketing and advertising skills, and a study of associated media. This class does require self-motivation and the ability to meet deadlines. It can include work outside the framework of the class schedule. This class can require a spring interview and acceptance by the adviser for students interested in the class. Incoming freshmen are exempt from the interview. Juniors interested in this class may wish to enroll in the Nonfiction Writing class, an English credit course that develops writing for publication. **This course will fulfill the humanities/CTE graduation requirement.** Prerequisites: Computer skills, writing skills, and a reasonable command of English. Additional photography and graphic design skills are helpful. Students may be interviewed for course enrollment.

ADVANCED PUBLICATIONS

Full Year

10 11 12

This elective, student-driven course, opened to sophomores through seniors, is a continuation of beginning journalism in which students become part of the publishing leadership of the class, producing the online Senator Newspaper and the print Carneta yearbook, continuing to work on their skills in various aspects of publishing, including news and feature writing, editing, layout, interview skills, marketing and advertising skills. Students must be self-motivated, bringing with them the ability to write, edit, work in graphic design, and provide other talents to produce the newspaper and yearbook. The class requires work outside the framework of class time and students must be able to volunteer to help with yearbook sales, attend planning sessions for the newspaper and yearbook, participate in any planned training sessions and include themselves in a myriad of activities related to newspaper and yearbook advertising, production and distribution. Juniors interested in this class may be interested in the Nonfiction Writing class, an English credit course that develops writing for publication. **This course will fulfill the humanities/CTE graduation requirement.** Prerequisites: Computer skills, leadership skills, writing skills, photography skills, beginning publications or permission of the instructor. This class can require a spring interview and acceptance by the adviser for student interested in the class.

PUBLICATIONS LAB

Full Year

11 12

This elective, student-driven course, opened to sophomores through seniors, is a continuation of beginning journalism in which students become part of the publishing leadership of the class, producing the online *Senator* Newspaper and the print *Carneta* yearbook, continuing to work on their skills in various aspects of publishing, including news and feature writing, editing, layout, interview skills, marketing and advertising skills. Students must be self-motivated, bringing with them the ability to write, edit, work in graphic design, and provide other talents to produce the newspaper and yearbook. The class requires work outside the framework of class time and students must be able to volunteer to help with yearbook sales, attend planning sessions for the newspaper and yearbook, participate in any planned training sessions and include themselves in a myriad of activities related to newspaper and yearbook advertising, production and distribution. Juniors interested in this class may be interested in the Nonfiction Writing class, an English credit course that develops writing for publication. **This course will fulfill the humanities/CTE graduation requirement.** Prerequisites: Computer skills, leadership skills, writing skills, photography skills, advanced publications or permission of the instructor. This class can require a spring interview and acceptance by the adviser for students interested in the class.