

Content Area / Grade Level:

English~Grade 12

Course Title:

English 4

Course Description:

The English 4 courses concentrate primarily on the literary contribution of a variety of authors from various periods. Students will focus on how to analyze works by studying from four genres—novels, plays, poems, and short stories. Students work towards understanding literature in terms of how the work was affected by the period in which it was written and how it affects them today. The voice of the author, word choice, imagery, detail, and thematic element, will be of primary focus. The class will stress higher-order critical thinking skills. Through revision and editing, students will also focus on advancing and developing their writing ability and will be encouraged to engage in thoughtful class discussions throughout the course. The class will have weekly vocabulary assignments, including extensive work with the comprehension and contextual use of various literary terms. The mastery of MLA formatting, source synthesis, and proper citation technique will be required.

*The focus of the HONORS English 4 course will include sophisticated synthesis and analysis in reading, writing, vocabulary, speaking & listening.

*The ACADEMIC English 4 course will include reading, vocabulary & writing strategies to meet/exceed grade-level expectations by the end of the year.

*The INTERMEDIATE English 12 course includes reading, vocabulary & writing strategies to meet grade-level expectations by the end of the school year.

Westbrook K-12 Learning Standards

- Foundations of Reading & Language
- Reading Comprehension & Interpretation
- Writing Argument, Information & Narrative
- Writing Research
- Speaking & Listening for Discussion
- Speaking & Listening for Presentation

Guiding Principles / Vision of the Graduate

- Clear and Effective Communicator
- Self-Directed and Lifelong Learner
- Creative and Practical Problem Solver
- Responsible and Involved Citizen
- Integrative and Informed Thinker

Expected Outcomes - Expectations for students upon completion of the course.

Students will be able to:

- Read with comprehension and interpret, analyze, and evaluate appropriate and increasingly complex literary and informational texts independently and proficiently.
- Use concepts about print, word identification strategies, fluency, and vocabulary development. *
- Write clear and coherent argument, narrative, and informational pieces of writing for a range of tasks, purposes, and audiences.
- Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage, an increasingly complex general academic and domain-specific vocabulary, technology, and the writing process to produce and strengthen writing.
- Conduct short and sustained research projects based on focused questions and presented with evidence from literary and informational resources, demonstrating an understanding of the subject area under investigation that is original, accurate, integrated, reflective, and informative, and follows a standard citation format.
- Initiate and participate effectively in a range of discussions, posing and responding to questions thoughtfully and respectfully, expressing ideas clearly and persuasively, and acknowledging diverse perspectives,
- Present information, findings, and supporting evidence, conveying a clear and distinct perspective using increasingly complex and appropriate academic and domain-specific vocabulary.

Core Units of Study - Each course has 4 - 6 Core Units of Study which are required and in which all targeted learning standards are embedded.

- Truth and Justice
- Search for Identity
- The American Dream
- The Hero's Journey
- Vocabulary Acquisition & Application
- The Personal Journey
- 'My Memory Book' - Senior Portfolio Reflective Project