



ELA GRADES 9-12

GRADE LEVEL EXPECTATIONS

General High School Literacy Skills and Habits

- Regular daily reading, for learning and for pleasure
- Regular reflective writing, for learning and for pleasure
- Textual analysis and perseverance through challenging, complex texts.

ELA COMMON CORE 9 (1 credit, 1 year)

English 9 students explore the Common Core Standards through Shakespeare's classic works, balanced with contemporary writing by authors including Karen Russell and John Steinbeck. Through the study of a variety of text types and media, students build knowledge, analyze ideas, delineate arguments, and develop writing, collaboration and communication skills. Mid-year and final examinations model portions of the 11th-grade Common Core English Regents Exam, while being written for 9th grade readers and writers.

ELA COMMON CORE 10 (1 credit, 1 year)

English 10 students develop arguments in response to literary and informational texts, including Marlowe's "The Passionate Shepherd to his Love", "The Palace Thief" by Ethan Canin, *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot, Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "Letter from Birmingham Jail," and Shakespeare. Students create media across a variety of social platforms, including collaborative online text and audio podcasts, responding to the literature and informal texts experienced. Mid-year and final examinations model portions of the 11th grade Common Core English Regents Exam, while being written for 10th grade readers and writers.

ELA COMMON CORE 11 (1 credit, 1 year)

English 11 students read, discuss, and analyze literary and nonfiction texts focusing on how authors relate textual elements, such as plot, character, and central ideas within a text. English 11 builds students' skills and knowledge in order to prepare them for college and career readiness as defined by the New York State Learning Standards. Students are introduced to skills, practices, and routines of close reading, annotating text, and evidence-based discussion and writing, especially through text-dependent questioning and focused annotation. Close reading develops their ability to critically analyze texts for deep meaning and collect and analyze evidence for use in writing and discussion. Close reading and analysis of nonfiction as well develops their ability to identify and evaluate the claims an author uses in support of his/her argument. Students engage in critical analysis of texts to explore deep meanings. Independent reading and discussion are promoted daily. Focus revolves around reading comprehension, writing from sources -

All students are required to complete four (4) years of English. Opportunities exist for earning college credit through the following courses:

AP English Literature and Composition, AP English Language and Composition, English 13-1 and English 13-2.

Offerings in the English Language Arts Department are based on the New York State Education Department's Learning Standards for English Language Arts, The Learning Standards for Career Development and Occupational Studies, and the New York State

Common Core Standards for English Language Arts. Students must pass the New York State Common Core Regents Examination in English, administered at the end of 11th grade. However, passing this test does not automatically earn students credit for English 11; students must receive a passing grade for the course to earn course credit.



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argument, and text analysis. The mid-year examination models the format of the 11th grade Common Core English Regents Exam, which students take at the end of the year.

ELA COMMON CORE 12 (½ credit, ½ year)

The mandatory Core Senior English semester will include skills applicable to all students, focusing in particular upon College & Career Readiness writing skills and Speaking & Listening skills in preparation for Operation Graduation presentations. Through common but open assignments, students will have a great deal of latitude in personalizing the subjects they address through their writing and speaking. They will learn forms of speaking and writing including expository, analytical, persuasive, and instructional. English 13-2 continues the study of composition strategies introduced in ENG101 by focusing on writing within the humanities. The course emphasizes critical thinking skills and rhetorical principles commonly employed in writing about expressions of the human experience. The course examines literature, film, visual arts, and performing arts in some combination. Students produce 20 to 25 pages of text. English 13-1 may be taken for three hours of college credit through arrangement with Genesee Community College. The course follows Genesee Community College's syllabus for English 105. All seniors will need to earn a full credit for English 12. English 12 Core, will focus on the Speaking & Listening standards, as well as the writing standards required for College and Career Readiness. For the other half of their 12th grade ELA credit, students will be able to select from a menu of elective courses.

ENGLISH 13-1 (½ credit, ½ year)

Prerequisite: Students must have an 85% or higher overall Grade 11 ELA average and the recommendation of their ELA 11th grade teacher. Demonstration of this requirement must be met by August 1st prior to beginning the course.

**Note: English 13 may be taken in place of English 12 for ELA Credit.*

This course concentrates on the rhetorical principles and strategies essential for clear, effective academic writing and emphasizes the stages of the writing process and the critical thinking skills necessary to create appropriately researched and documented college level prose. The major area of study will be expository and persuasive writing, with some narrative and creative writing. Students are required to produce a minimum of 20 pages of writing. English 13-1 may be taken for three hours of college credit through arrangement with Genesee Community College. The course follows Genesee Community College's syllabus for English101.

ENGLISH 13-2 (½ credit, ½ year)

Prerequisite: this course is the continuation of English 13-1 and it builds on the skills taught in English 13-1. Therefore, students must have successfully completed the first half of the course, successfully defined as earning an 80% overall average or higher in English 13-1. As with English 13-1, students must have an 85% or higher overall Grade 11 ELA grade and the recommendation of their ELA 11 teacher, and also must have successfully completed the summer assignment.

**Note: English 13 may be taken in place of English 12 for ELA Credit.*

English 13-2 continues the study of composition strategies introduced in ENG101 by focusing on writing within the humanities. The course emphasizes critical thinking skills and rhetorical principles commonly employed in writing about expressions of the human experience. The course examines literature, film, visual arts, and performing arts in some combination. Students produce 20 to 25 pages of text. English 13-1 may be taken for three hours of college credit through

TIPS FOR PARENTS

Encourage students to use testing accommodations.

Read actively by highlighting text.

The audio versions of classic literature titles are available in the BHS school Library and Richmond Library. Audio is available at both locations on CD and Playaways. Also check iTunes for audio that can be downloaded to an iPod.

View movies based on literature/novels to reinforce the text. Keep in mind director's take license when putting together a movie – many times changes are made.

Various websites may prove helpful to a student struggling with literature.

- <http://www.cliffsnotes.com>
- <http://pinkmonkey.com/>
- <http://www.sparknotes.com/>

Various websites may prove helpful to a student struggling with writing/grammar etc.

- <http://depts.dyc.edu/learningcenter/owl/index.htm>

Side by Sides (Prestwick House Publishing) texts are available from various publishing companies for Shakespeare texts.

Reviewing famous/important lines/quotes can prove useful when helping a student understand the literature. A quick search on the web can be helpful with identifying such lines/quotes.

arrangement with Genesee Community College. The course follows Genesee Community College's syllabus for English 105.

ENGLISH 12 CREATIVE WRITING (½ credit, ½ year)

Creative Writing straddles the line between literary and informational text, demanding both analytical facility and artful language use, skills required for college and career readiness. Creative Writing integrates personal and global experience in prose or poetry. Creative Writing is rooted both in truth and imagination; it utilizes research and factual evidence along with the personal experience and expertise of the writer. Genres include short story, memoir and poetry. Creative writing ideally shows, rather than tells. It invites the reader to see the world through the lens of the author's experience and in doing so expand one's own worldview and self-understanding. The creative writer is required to analyze, interpret, explain and synthesize his/her own experiences with accurate, thoroughly researched data.

ENGLISH 12 SHORT FICTION (½ credit, ½ year)

This elective will be an excellent opportunity to examine and analyze the author's craft, which is a focus of the Common Core, as well as close reading. The course is organized by literary elements. Each story has been selected because it features a handful of literary elements. Students will explore literal vs. figurative language and how it adds to a short story as well as how to analyze an author's choices, purpose and craft.

AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION (1 credit, 1 year)

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation required.

The AP English Language and Composition course aligns to an introductory college-level rhetoric and writing curriculum, which requires juniors to develop evidence-based analytic and argumentative essays that proceed through several stages or drafts. Students evaluate, synthesize, and cite research to support their arguments. Throughout the course, students develop a personal style by making appropriate grammatical choices. Additionally, students read and analyze the rhetorical elements and their effects in non-fiction texts, including graphic images as forms of text, from many disciplines and historical periods.

AP ENGLISH LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION (1 credit, 1 year)

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation required.

AP Literature and Composition enables seniors to complete college level English studies while they are in high school. AP English Language Arts is an advanced course for seniors interested in varieties of great world literature. The course aims at the AP English written exam in May, and/or the CLEP written exam in June, the successful completion of which enables students to advance beyond the basic freshman English courses at most colleges and universities and to receive college credit before entering.

Studies may include works by the following major authors have been selected: Hesse, Euripides, Moliere, Orwell, Wilder, Swift, Ibsen, Miller, Albee, Williams, Kafka, Fitzgerald, James, Salinger, Shakespeare and others.

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