

# ENGLISH

*The English language arts as a core discipline is multidimensional. It includes the study of literature, the mastery of literacy and writing, the study of film, as well as the cultivation of language use and the capacity to reason.*

*In our comprehensive literature curriculum, students learn that there are a variety of approaches to the interpretation of literature and no one approach is “privileged.” Throughout their high school experience students will have the opportunity to test out different theories of literary interpretation, i.e. aesthetic, historical, psychological, philosophical or linguistic.*

*We will challenge students to communicate in writing in many different situations. Students will learn to choose an appropriate response for a particular purpose and reader. They will give and get writing feedback and evaluate their growth as writers.*

*Computers, television, film, videos, and radio have become dominant modes of communication in the modern world. Media technology is expanding, both in sophistication and availability. Today, we have become what Canadian philosopher Marshall McLuhan predicted nearly 30 years ago that we would become, the “global village.” Students are confronted with an endless sea of data. They will learn to select what is relevant, organize it, impose meaning on it, and use it effectively to solve problems.*

## *Attendance*

*As an educational community, we recognize and emphasize the importance of students being in school every day. Attendance is an integral part of the learning process as well as a vital requirement for the post-high school career. Thus, students whose attendance records (whether excused and unexcused) are poor, and who have established an attendance pattern which calls into question their recognition of this concept, may be excluded from the course level that they desire.*

## THE FRESHMAN ENGLISH PROGRAM

*The Freshman English course stresses competence in reading and effective written expression. The study of literature includes short stories, novels, and a Shakespearean play. In addition to materials assigned for class study and discussion, outside reading assignments are required. Specific writing assignments will be used as a basis for developing and improving a student’s writing competence. Students will learn how to write a variety of essays. In preparation for MCAS, students develop study and organizational skills, practice answering and supporting open-ended questions, writing to address prompts, and learn to self-assess and revise written work.*

### **ENGLISH 9 HONORS**

**CRS H0001**

**GRADE 9**

**CR 1**

**Y**

Students qualifying for entrance into Honors English 1 will be expected to: (1) read above grade level; (2) read difficult course material independently; (3) apply common literary terms to what they read; (4) demonstrate a lively interest in reading; (5) spend significant time on their homework; (6) demonstrate successful work habits; (7) write clear, well developed essays without structural, grammatical or punctuation errors in the final copy; (8) use their writing portfolio to show the depth of their writing; and (9) successfully participate in class discussions, projects and presentations using a variety of resources. *Prerequisite: Grade of A in 8<sup>th</sup> grade English and recommendation of teacher.*

### **ENGLISH 9 COLLEGE PREPARATORY A**

**CRS H0003**

**GRADE 9**

**CR 1**

**Y**

Students qualifying for entrance into College Preparatory English 1 will be expected to: (1) read at or above grade level; (2) comprehend, discuss and adequately analyze what they read; (3) demonstrate an interest in reading by reading independently outside of class; (4) devote adequate time to their homework assignments; (5) write clear, well developed essays with limited structural, punctuation or grammatical errors; (6) use their writing portfolio to show the depth of their writing; and (7) successfully participate in class discussions, projects and presentations using a variety of resources. *Prerequisite: Grade of B or better in 8<sup>th</sup> grade English and recommendation of teacher.*

**ENGLISH 9 COLLEGE PREPARATORY B      CRS H0005      GRADE 9      CR 1      Y**

Students qualifying for entrance into College Preparatory B English 1 will be expected to: (1) read at or slightly below grade level; (2) receive help with reading development; (3) read course material with teacher assistance; (4) demonstrate an interest in reading by reading independently outside of class; (5) devote adequate time to their homework assignments; (6) write clear, well developed essays with limited structural punctuation or grammatical errors; (7) use their writing portfolio to show the depth of their writing; and (8) successfully participate in class discussions, projects and presentations using a variety of resources. *Prerequisite: Successful completion of 8<sup>th</sup> grade English and recommendation of teacher.*

**FUNDAMENTALS OF READING AND COMPOSITION      CRS H0007      GRADE 9      CR 1      Y**

Students reading significantly below grade level or who have been assigned to Grade 9 will be enrolled in Reading and Composition in addition to College Preparatory English I to take an accelerated program to acquire the adult literacy and writing skills needed for high school academic success and life in the world of work thereafter. Students will learn many strategies and skills to become better readers and writers. Students will read aloud, use context clues, make predictions, visualize as they read, find purpose, organize details and examples, learn new vocabulary, connect new learning to prior knowledge, and monitor their own reading progress. Understanding word roots, prefixes and suffixes will improve reading through building vocabulary. The classes will be fast paced and interesting using PLATO Learning System. Students will be expected to set goals for improving their own reading and writing skills. Instruction will support state frameworks requirements. Students will learn through reading text, viewing films, listening to audio productions, and role-playing or enacting scenes for their class. The course goals will be (1) to raise the reading level, and help students to comprehend, discuss, and analyze non-fiction and fiction texts; (2) classify and reorganize information; (3) distinguish fact from opinion; (4) understand literary elements; (5) determine cause and effect; (6) understand point of view; and (7) make inferences and draw conclusions. Students will be taught to (8) write with clear focus – organizing content, developing paragraphs, using a level of detail, and answer MCAS style prompts and multiple – choice questions. *Prerequisite: Assignment to the 9<sup>th</sup> grade at Haverhill High School and 8<sup>th</sup> grade teacher recommendation. Reading and Composition does not replace the English I requirement, but it does earn a graduation credit.*

## **THE SOPHOMORE ENGLISH PROGRAM**

*The Sophomore English course emphasizes the interrelationship of the three major areas of language, literature, and composition. The study of literature includes short fiction, novels, poetry, and two classical dramas. The goals of the Sophomore English program are to enable students to develop an appreciation and love of good literature, to develop a sensitivity to the written and spoken word, to learn to think more clearly, critically, and analytically, and to increase vocabulary and integrate it into verbal expression. In preparation for MCAS, students review test-taking, study, and organizational skills, practice writing open response and long compositions, and learn to self-assess and revise written work.*

**ENGLISH 10 HONORS      CRS H0009      GRADE 10      CR 1      Y**

Students qualifying for entrance into Honors English 2 will be expected to: (1) devote ample time to their homework assignments; (2) review literary terms common to fiction, poetry and nonfiction and produce directed writings illustrating these terms; (3) analyze two classical plays; (4) write several well developed essays, using various sentence and paragraph styles, using transitional devices and exhibiting few or no grammatical or punctuation errors; (5) write a thesis paper supported with many text references; (6) review reading and writing skills for MCAS; (7) read four independent literature assignments in addition to the anthology readings; (8) use their writing portfolio to show the depth of their writing. *Prerequisite: Grade B or better in 9<sup>th</sup> grade English, reading at or above 9<sup>th</sup> grade reading level, and recommendation of teacher.*

**ENGLISH 10 COLLEGE PREPARATORY A      CRS H0011      GRADE 10      CR 1      Y**

Students qualifying for entrance into College Preparatory A English 2 will be expected to: (1) read at or above grade level; (2) devote ample time to their homework assignments; (3) learn and apply analytical literary terms for fiction, nonfiction and poetry; (4) analyze two classical plays; (5) write several well developed essays, using varied sentence and paragraph structure; (6) review reading and writing skills for MCAS; (7) read three independent literature assignments in addition to the anthology readings; (8) use their writing portfolio to show the depth of their writing. *Prerequisite: Grade B or better in 9<sup>th</sup> grade English, reading at or above 8<sup>th</sup> grade reading level, and recommendation of teacher.*

**ENGLISH 10 COLLEGE PREPARATORY B    CRS H0013    GRADE 10    CR 1    Y**

Students qualifying for entrance into College Preparatory B English 2 will be expected to: (1) read at or slightly below grade level; (2) read difficult material with teacher assistance; (3) devote adequate time to their homework assignments; (4) analyze two classical plays; (5) learn and apply analytical literary terms for fiction, nonfiction and poetry; (6) write several well developed essays, using varied sentence and paragraph structure; (7) review reading and writing skills for MCAS; (8) read two independent literature assignments in addition to the anthology readings; (9) use their writing portfolio to show the depth of their writing. *Prerequisite: Completion of 9<sup>th</sup> grade English with a grade of C or better, reading at or above 6<sup>th</sup> grade reading level, and recommendation of teacher.*

**ENGLISH 10 COMPREHENSIVE    CRS H0015    GRADE 10    CR 1    Y**

Students enrolled in English 2 Comprehensive will continue to develop literacy and writing skills needed for life after high school. The course goals are to improve reading skills, increase comprehension, discussion, and analysis of nonfiction and fiction texts; classify and reorganize information; distinguish fact, opinion and personal experience; make inferences and draw conclusions. Students will be taught to write with clear focus. Students qualifying for entrance into English 2 Comprehensive will be expected to: (1) read at or slightly below grade level; (2) read difficult material with teacher assistance; (3) devote adequate time to their homework assignments; (4) analyze two classical plays; (5) learn and apply analytical literary terms for fiction, nonfiction and poetry; (6) write several well developed essays, using varied sentence and paragraph structure; (7) review reading and writing skills for MCAS; (8) read two independent literature assignments in addition to the anthology readings; (9) use their writing portfolio to show the depth of their writing. *Prerequisite: Completion of 9<sup>th</sup> grade English and reading significantly below grade level.*

## **THE JUNIOR ENGLISH PROGRAM**

*The Junior English Program continues the study of American literature, working always to develop the ability to read with a deep textual understanding. The novel, the short story, poetry, drama, and essays are studied in depth. Outside reading assignments will be required. Specific writing assignments will be used as a basis for developing and improving a student's writing competence. Students will be familiarized with the different sections of the SAT test and will be given suggestions for how and where to pursue test preparation.*

**ADV PLACEMENT ENGLISH LIT & COMPOSITION    CRS H0031    GRADE 11    CR 1    Y**

An AP Literature and Composition course engages students in the careful reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature. Through the close reading of selected texts, students deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their readers. As they read, students consider a work's structure, style, and themes as well as such smaller-scale elements as the use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone. The course includes intensive study of representative works from various genres and periods, concentrating on works of recognized literary merit. Close reading of literature involves the experience of literature, the interpretation of literature, and the evaluation of literature. Each corresponds to an approach to writing about literary works. Writing to understand a literary work may involve writing response and reaction papers, along with annotation, free writing, a reading journal and keeping a portfolio. Students enrolling in this course are required to take the Advanced Placement Examination in Literature and Composition. *Prerequisite: Grade of B+ or better in 10th grade Honors, application and qualifying essay, plus the recommendation of two English teachers.*

**ENGLISH 11 HONORS    CRS H0017    GRADE 11    CR 1    Y**

Students qualifying for entrance into Honors English 3 will be expected to: (1) be responsible for independent reading in addition to the assigned readings from the anthology and other class assigned readings; (2) write analytical essays—each of which contains a defensible thesis statement, supports that statement with textual evidence, and is developed thoroughly; (3) do research; (4) use peer and self-evaluations as part of the writing process; (5) develop revision skills through completing multiple drafts of each composition (6) use their writing portfolios to show the depth of their writing; (7) participate in class cooperatively; (8) speak before an audience using appropriate vocabulary to communicate with order and logic; (9) devote adequate time to their homework assignments; and (10) be prepared to work at a demanding pace. *Prerequisite: Grade of B or better in 10th grade English and recommendation of teacher. It is recommended that students in the top 10% of their class consider this demanding course.*

**ENGLISH 11 COLLEGE PREPARATORY      CRS H0019    GRADE 11      CR 1      Y**

Students qualifying for entrance into College Preparatory English 3 will be expected to: (1) read independently, in addition to the assigned class readings; (2) work on writing skills—the development of a thesis, how to support the thesis statement, and how to use supporting evidence; (3) devote adequate time to their homework assignments; (4) complete research; (5) use peer and self-evaluations as part of the writing process; (6) develop revision skills through completing multiple drafts of each composition; (7) work cooperatively; (8) ) speak before an audience using appropriate vocabulary to communicate with order and logic; (9) use their writing portfolio to show the depth of their writing; and (10) complete all the assigned work. *Prerequisite: Completion of 10th grade English with a B or better and recommendation of teacher.*

**ENGLISH 11 COMPREHENSIVE      CRS H0021    GRADE 11      CR 1      Y**

Students enrolled in English 3 will be expected to: (1) read and improve comprehension; (2) write a variety of essays and letters, both business and personal, using appropriate format and correct grammatical construction; (3) work cooperatively; (4) do research; (5) display competent editing and proofreading skills; (6) use peer and self-evaluations as part of the writing process; (7) develop revision skills through completing multiple drafts of each composition; (8) speak before an audience using appropriate vocabulary and communicate with order and logic; and (9) use their writing portfolio to show the depth of their writing; (10) be prepared to do all of the work assigned. *Prerequisite: Completion of 10th grade English and recommendation of teacher.*

### **THE SENIOR ENGLISH PROGRAM**

*The Senior English Program continues the study of British literature, working always to develop the ability to read with a deep textual understanding. Again the novel, the short story, poetry, drama, and essays are studied, but this time the emphasis is on style and the techniques used by authors to gain their effects. Outside reading assignments will be required. Specific writing assignments will be used as a basis for developing and improving a student's writing competence. All seniors are required to demonstrate their mastery of language arts skills by completing an exit portfolio as a final performance assessment and graduation requirement for English.*

**ADV PLACEMENT ENGLISH LANGUAGE & COMPOSITION      CRS H0023    GRADE 12    CR 1Y**

The Advanced Placement course in English Language and Composition engages students in becoming skilled readers of prose written in a variety of periods, disciplines and rhetorical contexts, and in becoming skilled writers who compose for a variety of purposes. Students will experience generating ideas, then developing, revising, and editing them in successive drafts. AP Language and Composition students become a community of learners who contribute in meaningful ways to the daily discourse of the classroom. Their writing, reading, and speaking should make students aware of the interactions between a writer's purposes and audience expectations, as well as how the resources of language contribute to effectiveness in writing. Heavy emphasis will be on nonfiction writing and reading. Students enrolling in this course are required to take the Advanced Placement Examination in Language and Composition and develop and reflect on their work to create an exit portfolio. *Prerequisite: Grade of B+ or better in 11th grade Honors, application and qualifying essay, plus the recommendation of two English teachers.*

**ENGLISH 12 HONORS      CRS H0025    GRADE 12      CR 1      Y**

Students qualifying for entrance into Honors English 4 will be expected to: (1) be responsible for independent reading in addition to the assigned readings from the anthology and other assigned class readings; (2) make connections and reflect on their reading; (3) write analytical essays with thesis statement, supporting textual evidence and thorough development; (4) do research; (5) write creatively; (6) use peer evaluations as part of the writing process; (7) read Shakespeare and other selected classical and contemporary British works; (8) devote adequate time to their homework assignments; (9) be prepared to work independently and cooperatively at a demanding pace; (10) develop and reflect on their writing to create an exit portfolio. *Prerequisite: Grade of B or better in 11<sup>th</sup> grade English and recommendation of teacher.*

**ENGLISH 12 COLLEGE PREPARATORY      CRS H0027    GRADE 12      CR 1      Y**

Students qualifying for entrance into College Preparatory English 4 will be expected to: (1) write several long and short essays and creative pieces continuing to work on those skills necessary to make the writing clear, concise, coherent, unified and transitional; (2) complete outside reading and reflections on their reading each quarter; (3) work on vocabulary, learning to expand and refine the words that are part of their working vocabulary; (4) read Shakespeare's *Macbeth* and other selected classical and contemporary works; (5) do research; (6) work cooperatively; (7) present work before the class audience; (8) devote adequate time to their homework assignments; (9) develop and reflect on their writing to create an exit portfolio. *Prerequisite: Grade of B or better in 11th grade English and recommendation of teacher.*

**ENGLISH 12 COMPREHENSIVE**                      **CRS H0029**      **GRADE 12**      **CR 1**                      **Y**

Students enrolled in Comprehensive English 4 will be expected to: (1) complete writing assignments in exposition, narration, poetry, and persuasion; (2) read Shakespeare and other literature in the genres of poetry, drama, the essay, and the novel; (3) use the writing process to revise and expand written work; (4) complete two independent reading assignments in addition to those assigned in class; (5) work cooperatively; (6) present work before the class audience; (7) devote adequate time to complete homework assignments; (8) develop and reflect on their writing to create an exit portfolio. *Prerequisite: Completion of 11th grade English and recommendation of teacher.*

**ENGLISH ELECTIVES**

**CREATIVE WRITING [E]**                                      **CRS H0033**      **GRADES 11-12**      **CR ½**                      **S**

Creative writing is designed as a workshop to provide students with the opportunity to study and write short stories, poetry, creative nonfiction and scripts. Teacher-student conferences and peer conferences will be held frequently to help students strengthen their writing skills and their confidence. **Students will contract to take the course for Honors or College Prep credit.** Additional reading and writing requirements exist for honors credit. *Prerequisite: Completion of 10th grade English.*

**COMMUNICATION WORKSHOP [E]**                                      **CRS H0035**      **GRADES 10-12**      **CR ½**                      **S**

Communication Workshop is designed to develop and strengthen the skills of speaking, listening, and writing. Students will improve these skills by preparing and delivering a variety of speeches for different audiences and purposes, participating in small group and panel discussions, and evaluating professional speeches and those of their peers. *Prerequisite: Completion of 9th grade English. Seniors will be given first priority, Juniors will be given second priority, and Sophomores third.*

**JOURNALISM 1 AND 2 [E]**                                      **CRS H0037**      **GRADES 10-12**      **CR ½**                      **S**

Journalism is designed as a half year course with the emphasis on writing. In addition to writing a variety of articles and feature stories, students will also learn about journalism, its history and methods. Journalism may be elected more than once for credit. Students taking Journalism for a second semester will work on advanced news articles and feature stories. *Prerequisite: Completion of 9<sup>th</sup> grade English and a demonstrated proficiency in writing.*

**SAT PREP [E]**    **CRS H0041**      **GRADES 11-12**      **CR ½**                      **S**

The focus of this course emphasizes preparation for the new SAT I. Students will work to develop and strengthen reading comprehension, vocabulary skills, verbal analysis, sentence completions, and essay writing. The course will also include tips and insights into test-taking skills, the types of essay prompts, and the holistic scoring rubric used for the SAT essay. Practice tests and anchor papers will be discussed and evaluated.

**LITERATURE AS FILM [E]**                                      **CRS H0036**      **GRADES 10-12**      **CR 1/2**                      **S**

This course allows the student to critique and analyze the influential connections of literature and film. Students in Literature as Film have a requisite knowledge of literature and will use their ability to critique, deduce, and develop to help connect them to the visual counterparts. Furthermore, students will take a chance at synthesize and composition, as they will present their own interpretations and judgments. Students will also utilize a business-like format to allow them to simulate the real world experiences of film editing and development.

**THE SPORT OF READING [E]**                                      **CRS H0038**      **GRADES 10-12**      **CR 1/2**                      **S**

The Sport of Reading is a course designed to provide students with an opportunity to read high interest subject matter from multiple literary genres. Students will read sports-related novels, short stories, non-fiction, poetry, biography, history, news reports, and commentary. Students will be expected to write in many genres and analyze reading materials considering the role that sports has in American life. Students will be expected to read for homework and come to class prepared to write, discuss, and synthesize their reading.

**ENGLISH TEACHER ASSISTANT [E]**                                      **CRS H0039**      **GRADES 11-12**      **CR 1/2**                      **S**

Teacher assistants are assigned to an English class to work under the direction of an English teacher. Responsibilities may include tutoring, preparing classroom materials, guiding small groups or individuals through English course activities, and encouraging students to understand that becoming a proficient student of English takes time and effort. Positive peer interaction will benefit all students and promote higher motivation and student achievement. *Prerequisite: Grade of B or higher in English grades 9 and 10, recommendation of teacher, and approval of English supervisor.*