

# English Department

*Students at Hart High School will maintain and improve their achievement in literacy and English knowledge. This will be measured by a variety of state and district test scores as well as local assessments. The school-wide focus will be on the regular integration of reading and writing activities in all content areas.*

**Minimum graduation requirement: 40 credits**

## **ENGLISH 9A**

Grade 9

5 credits

Prerequisite: Department and counselor's recommendation based on previous achievement and/or placement testing.

This course will cover the required District Core literature units including the novel, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, and a selection of short stories and nonfiction pieces from Prentice Hall (Gold Level). In addition, students will write at least six essays encompassing the writing domains of reflection, autobiography, interpretation, and evaluation. The format of the essay will be emphasized, including MLA format for both heading and page citation. This course will also cover the basic grammar skills beginning with the parts of speech, capitalization and punctuation. (CSF-I)

## **ENGLISH 9B**

Grade 9

5 credits

Prerequisite: Department and counselor's recommendation based on previous achievement and/or placement testing.

This course will cover the required District Core literature units for the novel, *Of Mice and Men*, the drama, *Romeo and Juliet*, and the epic, *The Odyssey*. In addition, several poetry units from Prentice Hall (Gold Level) will be explored. Students will continue to work on at least six essays following the domains from the previous semester. MLA format including heading and page citation will again to be emphasized. The course will cover the basic grammar skills beginning with a review of fall semester grammar and continuing with introductions to both basic sentence patterns and phrases. (CSF-I)

## **ENGLISH 9A/B HONORS**

Grade 9

10 credits

Prerequisite: Students must earn a score of 70% or higher on the Hart High 9<sup>th</sup> grade honors entrance exam.

Highly motivated students enrolled in this course will be expected to have mastered the basics of English grammar and usage. Course content will review these skills and add sentence patterns, verbals, appositives and absolutes with an emphasis on how to use these properly in essays. Literature units will include two novels, an epic The Odyssey, and Romeo and Juliet. Students will write 8 essays per semester, and a research paper in the spring. (CSF-I)

**ENGLISH 10A**

Grade 10

5 credits

This course will cover the required District Core literature units, including the novel, nonfiction, and short stories from Prentice Hall (Blue Level). Emphasis will be placed on writing domains of reflection, autobiography, interpretation, and evaluation. Additionally, the course will cover grammar skills such as prepositional phrases, sentence patterns, and pronoun usage. (CSF-I)

**ENGLISH 10B**

Grade 10

5 credits

This course will cover the required District Core literature units including drama and the novel, and selected poetry from Prentice Hall (Blue Level), persuasive essay writing and CAHSEE writing. The writing domains from the previous semesters will be reinforced. The course will also cover grammar skills such as verbals, clauses, and quotations. (CSF-I)

**ENGLISH 10A/B HONORS**

Grade 10

10 credits

Prerequisites: Students must have earned a “C” average or higher both semesters in English 9 Honors or must earn a score of 70% or higher on the Hart High 10<sup>th</sup> grade honors entrance exam.

Highly motivated students enrolled in this course will be expected to have mastered the grammar taught in English 9 Honors. This course will present both genre-based (novel, short story, poetry, non-fiction, and drama) and thematic literature units covering both the district’s core tenth grade literature and World Literature. Students will write at least eight formal essays in MLA format per semester including essays on outside reading. Students will continue the study of grammar and practice its usage in the context of their essay-writing and will study roots, prefixes, and suffixes as part of a vocabulary-developing process. (CSF-I)

**ENGLISH 11 A/B**

Grade 11

10 credits

This course will trace the major themes in the development of literature in America from the Colonial Period to the present. Genres of study will include short stories, novels, poetry, drama, and non-fiction. The course will additionally reinforce basic language skills, present a study of English usage, and familiarize the student with the PSAT and SAT I with the new writing component. Students will also write a variety of essays, including both in-class essays patterned after the SAT/EPT essays and out-of-class essays including reflective, persuasive, synthesis, literary analysis, and research. (CSF I).

**ENGLISH 12 A/B**

Grade 12

10 credits

English 12 is a two-semester course designed to equip students for the demands of both post-secondary education and the workplace. Reading both informational text as well as works of fiction, students will develop and hone their skills in rhetoric, composition, speech, and literary analysis. Special emphasis will be given to preparing students to succeed on English placement tests at the junior college and university levels. (CSF I)

**READ 180**

Grades 9

5/10 credits

Prerequisite: Reading and achievement scores below basic and basic grade level as determined by departmental placement testing, STAR test scores, grades in past English classes, teacher observation, and/or counselor recommendation.

This course will focus on accelerating students' reading abilities. Students will demonstrate growth in the essential areas of vocabulary, spelling, comprehension, and paragraph writing. (CSF III)



## English Department Electives Program

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION AP**

Grade 11

10 credits

Prerequisites: English class grades of A or B+, writing sample, teacher recommendation, instructor recommendation.

This class is a two semester writing course for the most ambitious university-bound juniors with major emphasis on expository and persuasive writing skills. In addition to writing weekly papers, students will read American

Literature, cover language usage, practice strategies for the PSAT, SAT I, and the new subject area exam in English literature, and study rhetorical devices (syntax, diction, repetition, balance, antithesis, tone, etc.) as they apply to the Advanced Placement Examination. Students will be expected to take the AP Language and Composition Examination in May. (CSF-I)

**ENGLISH LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION AP**                      Grade 12                      10 credits

Prerequisites: Superior academic achievement in English classes; a personal interview with the instructor; parental approval; motivation; completion of a reading list before the fall semester.

This course is an Advanced Placement course meeting the college-level standards of the College Board. It is understood that the majority of students enrolled in this course will be taking the Advanced Placement Test in English Literature. This two-semester course will stress extensive reading and close textual analysis of the required reading under the demands of time limitations. Given that this class is the equivalent of credit for two semesters of college credit in English, the works of such authors as Shakespeare, Joyce, Dostoevsky, and others of similar stature will be examined in detail. Regardless of the genre or the author examined, close textual analysis and effective written expression of such analysis will be stressed. (CSF-I)

**STRATEGIC ENGLISH** Grades 10 - 12 (11/12 who have not passed ELA CAHSEE) 5 credits

This English course is a semester course designed to supplement a student's regular English course by providing direct and focused instruction of the California Content Standards for Language Arts for 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students who have not passed the English portion of the CAHSEE. The course will emphasize the specific standards that need to be mastered in order to pass the CAHSEE. In addition, students will develop the stamina, confidence, and "test-wiseness" needed to help them pass this high stakes test. The course will earn English credit, but may not take the place of the student's regular grade-level English course. (CSF III)