ENGLISH

* Course descriptions that are shaded are not being offered.
* Students are required to take four credits of English:
	+ Freshman English – 1 credit
	+ Sophomore English or Honor’s American Literature – 1 credit
	+ Junior English or Honor’s World Literature – 1 credit
	+ Senior English or AP Literature/Composition – 1 credit

**AP English Literature and Composition** 3 trimesters Grade Level: 12

Course # 0501 Prerequisites: (1) GPA of B or

 # 0502 above in prerequisite courses

 # 0503 (Honors American Lit., Honors

 World Lit.) **OR**

 (2) Teacher recommendation

This 3 trimester course combines the intensive study of literature and analytical writing. It will prepare highly motivated, able students for college-level English courses; and it may enable them, through their taking and scoring well on the AP exam, to earn college credit. The course focuses on the study of literature by genre: drama, poetry, fiction, and nonfiction. In the second semester, students write a formal research paper and present their findings in a symposium with other students who have worked on related topics. No senior may enter AP English Literature and Composition in the middle of the year. **A REQUIREMENT OF THIS COURSE IS A SUMMER READING LIST. AN ASSESSMENT OF THE READING WILL BE TAKEN THE FIRST WEEK OF FIRST TRIMESTER.**

**Advanced Composition**  1 trimester Grade Level: 10 - 12

Course # 0403 Prerequisite: B or better in previous/current English classes

Students must also complete an application and interview process

The goal of this class is to work on issues of writing with the student body while also studying the process of composition. The class is available to 10th-12th grade students. Students will work on reflective writing pieces along with focusing on conventions within various genres and curricular areas of composition. In addition, it requires a component of serving in the MHS Writing Center one day a week before or after school as well as during class.

**Creative Writing** 1 trimester Grade Level: 11 – 12, 10th gr. only

Course # 0601 with teacher/counselor approval

 Prerequisite: Freshman English/

 Sophomore English

The chief emphasis of this course will be to foster expression of the creative and imaginative mind and to provide the guidance necessary to produce effective and artistic literary expression. The literary forms developed in class will include poetry, descriptive sketches, short stories, a one-act play, and other assignments.

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**Freshman English** 2 trimesters Grade Level: 9

Course # 0101 9A Prerequisite: None

 # 0102 9B

This class is required of all freshmen. It continues the basic development of communication skills begun in the middle school. This is a comprehensive course, which provides students with instruction and drill to improve their abilities to read, write, speak and think. Grammar, writing, speech, literature and word study are taught. Each student must write four formal essays (two each trimester) to receive credit for the course.

**Honors American Literature** 2 trimesters Grade Level: 10

Course # 0203 Prerequisites: 1) B- or better in 1st

 # 0204 trimester of Freshman English

 2) Completion of application

 process

 3) Recommendation of 1st trimester

 Freshman Eng. teacher

 4) Completion of writing sample

This course studies American Literature from its early beginnings to the present. Students will read, analyze, and critique all forms of literature, including poetry, drama, and several novels. The accelerated pace of this class demands a serious commitment to outside reading. The course emphasizes independent reading and analytical writing, providing academic challenge to the serious student. A sophomore student in Honors American Literature must receive a final grade of B or above in each trimester before advancing to Honors World Literature as a junior. No sophomore may enter Honors American Literature after the first trimester or without having completed the application process in the spring of his/her freshman year. Honors American Literature will replace Sophomore English as a graduation requirement for those students taking this course. Each student must successfully pass each trimester to complete the English requirement for graduation.

**Honors World Literature** 2 trimesters Grade Level: 11

Course # 0305 Prerequisites: 1) B- or better in

 # 0306 each trimester of current English

 class or B in Honors Amer. Lit

 2) Eng. teacher recommendation

This class will be taken in the junior year as a prerequisite for the Advanced Placement English class available to seniors. Students will do an intensive and in-depth study of World Literature. Students will be challenged by extensive reading and writing assignments. To remain in the honors program as a junior, a student must earn a B or above in the previous trimester. No junior may enter Honors World Literature after first trimester. Each student must successfully pass each trimester to complete the English requirement for graduation.

**Junior English** 2 trimesters Grade Level: 11-12

Course # 0303 11A Prerequisites: Freshman/

 # 0304 11B Sophomore English

Junior English will not only continue the basic development of reading and composition skills from tenth grade, it will challenge students with rigorous content. This comprehensive course provides students with instruction and guided practice in reading and analyzing different genres of literature; an intense focus on writing, listening, and speaking skills; and the opportunity to apply principles of grammar and mechanics. Each student must successfully pass each trimester to complete the English requirement for graduation.

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**Modern Journalism** 1-3 trimesters Grade Level: 9-12

Course # 0406 Prerequisites: B average or higher in

 English classes, teacher recommendation

This course is designed to develop student understanding of how media exerts an influence in society and culture. Students will develop the lens necessary to distinguish how, by whom, and for what purposes, messages and images are created, and gain practical, hands-on experience in researching, reporting, writing stories, video and sound reporting, photography, advertising, sales, and creation of relevant content to our community.

Students will have working knowledge of Adobe InDesign, Photoshop, Premiere, After Effects as well as social media platforms. To be eligible for continued enrollment in Modern Journalism, a student must have earned a B or higher in all previous English courses and recommendations from other teachers, have an excellent attendance record, and have approval from the teacher of the class. This project centered class will require students to work well in groups, as well as independent reading and writing assignments. Self-directed use of class time and the ability to meet deadlines is critical to student success in this course.

**Senior English** 1 trimester Grade Level: 11-12

Course # 0401 12A Prerequisites: Freshman/Sophomore/

Course # 0402 12B Junior English

Senior English will stress descriptive, argumentative, persuasive, and analytical writing. Students enrolling in this class should, by the end of the year, feel confident that they will be able to write successful college research papers and assignments. Each student must successfully pass each trimester to complete the English requirement for graduation.

**Sophomore English** 2 trimesters Grade Level: 10

Course # 0201 10A Prerequisite: Freshman English

 # 0202 10B

This class will emphasize literature, writing, and speech. The literature portion focuses on short stories, poetry, and novels by American authors. Students utilize the writing process during the writing portion, and grammar and usage

lessons are presented weekly. Each student must successfully pass each trimester to complete the English requirement for graduation. Students must complete two formal writings (one each trimester) to receive credit for this course. Each student must successfully pass each trimester to complete the English requirement for graduation.

**Vocabulary Improvement** 1 trimester Grade Level: Grades 11 - 12

Course # 0607 Prerequisite: Freshman English/

 Sophomore English

This course concentrates on vocabulary development. The vocabulary study includes words for a college curriculum, Greek and Latin roots and stems, techniques for further improvement of vocabulary, and words for specialized fields. Working their way at times through a self-paced study and, at other times, teacher-directed activities, students are expected to do various exercises using words and also to write essays periodically, using newly learned words in context. Self-directed use of class time is critical to student success in this course.

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