

English

Strong literacy skills in reading, writing, listening, and speaking are critical to career and college success in the 21st century. The program of studies in English is designed to cultivate in each of our students proficiency in and appreciation of language and literature. Texts selected for study in English classes reflect a variety of genres, cultures, and time periods. Texts are selected based on complexity and literary merit.

Students must earn a minimum of four credits in English 9 through 12 in order to graduate. The English program further provides a rich array of electives such as theatre, journalism, media, and all aspects of publication. Students are encouraged to participate in a rigorous program of required English courses and English electives. English Graduation Requirements — 4 Credits

- English 9
- English 10
- English 11 (or an AP English)
- English 12 (or an AP English)

Required Assessments

All students must take the Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP) in English 10. This assessment will be 20 percent of the student’s overall grade.

Fine Arts Graduation Requirement — 1 Credit

Courses that meet the Fine Arts requirement can be found in the Visual Arts, Dance, English, and Music program sections.

High Engagement/Passion Courses

Storytelling Through the Arts

A840 Telling Stories in One Act	0.25qtr
Share your story or re-tell existing narratives through elements of theatre and drama such as basic acting skills, characterization, and improvisation. Contributes to satisfying the Fine Arts Credit Requirements	

A841 Theater Technology and Management— The Magic That Brings the Stage to Life	0.25qtr
Produce, program, and manage visual scenes and audio design for a live-theater production after learning how to use behind-the-scenes technology. Contributes to satisfying the Fine Arts Credit Requirements	

X400 PSAT/SAT/ACT Prep (Verbal)	0.25qtr
Students in grades 10-12 prepare for the PSAT, SAT, and ACT by developing and applying strategies to strengthen critical reading, writing, and test-taking skills. Through focused instruction, practice with actual test items, and independent activities, students diagnose their individual needs and implement a program to improve their immediate scores and their greater academic performance in high school and beyond.	

A99 Daily English 9 w/Reading	[FY] 0.5 English & 0.5 Elective/sem
This daily course (meeting on both A and B days) is designed for students who need additional reading support. The course builds upon students’ prior knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, word usage, and the mechanics of writing and includes the four aspects of language use (reading, writing, speaking, and listening) enhanced with research-based reading strategies for comprehension and fluency practice.	

NCAA

A090 English 9	[FY] 0.5/sem
English 9 builds upon students’ prior knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, word usage, and the mechanics of writing and includes the four aspects of language use: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. This course introduces and defines various genres of literature, including world literature, from a spectrum of time periods with writing expectations aligned to reading selections.	

NCAA

A097 Honors English 9	[FY] 0.5/sem
Honors English 9 builds upon students’ prior knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, word usage, and the mechanics of writing and includes the four aspects of language use: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. This course introduces and defines various genres of literature, including world literature, from a spectrum of time periods with writing expectations aligned to reading selections. Honors English 9 challenges students to apply analytic and critical skills to complex texts and to complete rigorous assignments. Students may be assigned reading over the preceding summer.	

NCAA

W80410 Accessing English 9	1.0sem
Taken during the first semester of the freshman year, access to English 9 is a highly differentiated reading intervention that accelerates instruction and allows struggling readers to experience success. The program directly addresses individual needs through adaptive and instructional software, high-interest literature, and direct instruction in reading, writing, and	

vocabulary skills. This reading intervention is provided for students who have been identified as needing focused and intensive reading instruction in order to access the English 9 curriculum. Students are placed in this program only after testing or evaluation.

A09143 | Daily English 9 Q3 **0.5qtr**

Daily English 9 builds upon the skills acquired in the Access to English 9 course as well as students' prior knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, word usage, and the mechanics of writing. Daily English 9 includes the four aspects of language use: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. This course introduces and defines various genres of literature, including world literature, from a spectrum of time periods with writing expectations aligned to reading selections.

Prerequisite(s): *Accessing English 9*

NCAA

A09244 | Daily English 9 Q4 **0.5qtr**

Daily English 9 builds upon the skills acquired in the Access to English 9 course as well as students' prior knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, word usage, and the mechanics of writing. Daily English 9 includes the four aspects of language use: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. This course introduces and defines various genres of literature, including world literature, from a spectrum of time periods with writing expectations aligned to reading selections.

Prerequisite(s): *Accessing English 9 and Daily English 9 Q3*

NCAA

A109 | Daily English 10 w/Reading **[FY] 0.5 English & 0.5 Elective/sem**

This daily course (meeting on both A and B days) is designed for students who need additional reading support. Students learn about the different purposes and audiences of written compositions by writing argumentative, critical, and creative multi-paragraph essays and compositions. Through the study of various genres of literature, including world literature, from a spectrum of time periods, students can improve their reading comprehension and develop the skills to determine the author's intent and theme and to recognize the techniques used by the author to express his or her message. Students receive additional support for reading that includes research-based reading strategies and comprehension and fluency practice.

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A10 | English 10 **[FY] 0.5/sem**

English 10 offers a balanced focus on composition and literature. Students learn about the different purposes and audiences of written compositions by writing argumentative, critical, and creative multi-paragraph essays and compositions. Through the study of various genres of literature, including world literature, from a spectrum of time periods, students can improve their reading comprehension and develop the skills to determine the author's intent and theme and to recognize the techniques used by the author to communicate his or her message.

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A107 | Honors English 10 **[FY] 0.5/sem**

In Honors English 10 students apply critical theories and rhetorical analysis to literature and composition using challenging texts to practice critical reading; analyze themes, structures, and details; apply grammar; and use research for oral and written compositions. Texts represent a variety of genres of literature, including world literature, from a spectrum of time periods. Students may be assigned reading over the preceding summer.

NCAA

110 | English 11 **[FY] 0.5/sem**

In English 11 students continue to develop reading and writing skills. Students read a variety of genres of literature, primarily American, from a spectrum of time periods. Emphasis is placed on literary conventions and stylistic devices. Through frequent writing and research assignments based upon readings, students strengthen skills in logical writing patterns, word choice, usage, and techniques of using evidence from research.

NCAA

A117 | Honors English 11 **[FY] 0.5/sem**

In Honors English 11 students read and analyze challenging texts representing a variety of genres of literature, primarily American, from a spectrum of time periods. Emphasis is placed on literary conventions, stylistic devices, and critical analysis. Through frequent writing and research assignments based upon readings, students strengthen skills in logical writing patterns, word choice, usage, and techniques of using evidence from research. Students build skills in preparation for AP English courses, including timed writing opportunities with authentic AP questions. Students may be assigned reading over the preceding summer.

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A120 | English 12 **[FY] 0.5/sem**

English 12 blends composition and literature into a cohesive whole as students write multi-paragraph critical and comparative analyses of selected literature, including contemporary works, as they continue to develop their writing and language skills. Students demonstrate increasing independence in reading, writing, research, speaking, and listening.

NCAA—DUAL (JA1201/02)

A127 | Honors English 12 **[FY] 0.5/sem**

Honors English 12 blends composition and literature into a cohesive whole and continues to develop students' skills in writing, research, language, speaking, and listening. Students demonstrate increasing independence in critical and comparative analyses of selected challenging literature, including contemporary works, and in applying writing and language skills to develop multi-paragraph essays and presentations based on their reading and research. Students may be assigned reading over the preceding summer.

NCAA

A19 | American Film Studies **0.5sem**

This course is a survey of the history of American film, ranging from the late 19th century to today, as well as a study of the technique, fine art, narrative form, mode, craft, and influence of American cinema. The course will include screenings, lectures, discussion, exploration, investigation, analysis, and creation of film.

Prerequisite(s): *English 9 (C or better)*

A18 | Honors Film & Writing **0.5sem**

The Film and Writing course will support students as they gain a deeper understanding of complex cinematic concepts. This course is designed to use film as a springboard for high-level discussion, analytical reading, and purposeful writing. The course allows students to become familiar with the interpretive language of film, to cultivate the reading of film as text, and to create writing artifacts that critically analyze film.

Prerequisite(s): *English 10 (C or better)*

A138 | AP English Literature & Composition [FY] 0.5/sem

In this culminating, college-level English course, students apply critical and analytical skills to classical and contemporary written works of romance, comedy, tragedy, and satire/irony. Students learn through close reading, explication, comparative analysis, seminar, and extensive writing about literature. Students are required to complete outside reading during the preceding summer. AP English Literature and Composition prepares students for success on the AP exam and to be effective readers and writers in college and in their careers.

Prerequisite(s): *English 10 (Successful passage of MCAP)*

NCAA

A136 | Seminar: AP English Literature & Composition [FY] 0.5 elective credit/sem

This course prepares those students, who require additional practice, guidance, and experiences beyond those available in their AP English Literature and Composition course, for success on the AP English Literature and Composition exam and to be effective readers and writers in college and in their careers. Students receive intensive assistance in the concepts and skills tested by the AP English Literature and Composition exam.

Concurrent enrollment: *AP Literature & Composition*

A208 | AP English Language & Composition [FY] 0.5/sem

Students take this course in junior or senior year to study rhetoric, composition, and grammar at the university level. Students analyze authors' language, detail, style, intended audience, and patterns of rhetoric. Students complete required reading during the preceding summer. The reading and writing skills honed in this course complement the skills required in AP English Literature and Composition. This course prepares students for the AP exam and to be effective readers and writers in college and in their careers.

Prerequisite(s): *English 10 (Successful passage of MCAP strongly recommended)*

NCAA

A206 | Seminar: AP English Language & Composition [FY] 0.5 elective credit/sem

This course prepares students who require additional practice, guidance, and experiences beyond those available in their standard AP English Language and Composition course. Students receive assistance as they develop their skills in analysis and interpretation of rhetoric, composition, research, mastery of language and usage, and self-evaluation of their reading and writing. Students also receive additional preparation for the AP exam.

Concurrent enrollment: *AP English Language & Composition*

A14 | Journalism 0.5sem

Students explore the role of journalists in a free society in terms of journalistic philosophy, ethics, law, and history. They participate and reflect upon all the components of journalism such as design and opinion. This journalism course is the foundation course for Newspaper 1 and Yearbook 1.

NCAA–DUAL (JA1400)

A17 | Creative Writing 0.5sem

Creative Writing offers students the opportunity to develop and improve their technique and individual writing style in poetry, short story, drama, essays, and other forms of prose. Students study exemplary writing from various genres to obtain a fuller appreciation of the form and craft. Using reading and journal keeping as sources of ideas, students pursue individual interests and develop their creative writing skills.

NCAA–DUAL (JA1700)

A21 | Academic Writing 0.5sem

Students learn and practice modes of writing most common to AP and college courses: exposition, argument, on demand, and documented writing. Through frequent practice and guided revision, students improve the unity, coherence, and emphasis in their writing while continuing to develop their mastery of word choice, sentence fluency, and conventions. This course is intended as a preparation or companion course for any AP course.

A06 | Theatre Arts 1 0.5/sem

This course is a one or two semester elective introduction to theatre as a collaboration among actors, directors, producers, and technicians. It focuses on the process of theatrical production both on and backstage. Students develop body movement, voice, and character; direction; set, costume, and basic light and sound design; and other theatrical skills and knowledge. By applying creative dramatics, using multi-media, performing, and creating a design portfolio, students demonstrate and extend their theatrical skills. This course meets the fine arts graduation requirement.

DUAL (JA0600)

A07 | Theatre Arts 2 0.5/sem

Students specialize in areas of interest and apply this specialty working on production teams to design and perform excerpts from *Lapine* and *Sondheim's Into the Woods*. Students form theatre companies within the class to apply their skills to a complete, student-selected, musical script within the class, and to participate in a full production at their school. The expectations for the Theatre Arts 2 course exceed the State of Maryland Essential Learner Outcomes for Theatre. This course meets the fine arts graduation requirement.

Prerequisite(s): *Theatre Arts 1*

A08 | Theatre Arts 3 0.5/sem

Theatre Arts 3 allows students to expand their understanding of theatre beyond improvisation and script reading, which are the foci of Theatre Arts 1 and Theatre Arts 2. In this class students explore the historical aspects of theatre, examine the business side of theatrical production, build portfolios, and prepare for auditions. This class prepares students for the world of theatre beyond acting. This course meets the fine arts graduation requirement.

Prerequisite(s): *Theatre Arts 2*

A29 | Media Production 1 0.5sem

Media Production 1 surveys the field of television and introduces students to basic studio operations. Students participate in both the business and creative sides of television production: soliciting projects and funding, acting, directing, producing, and applying audio and video techniques.

A30 | Media Production 2 0.5sem

Media Production 2 extends and applies knowledge gained in Media Production 1, especially in extending the course beyond television where possible, focusing on media projects, film study, and career exploration.

Prerequisite(s): *Media Production 1*

A35 | Newspaper 1–4 0.5/sem

Students design a school newspaper by collaboratively learning and applying the following aspects of production: national criteria, codes of ethics, coverage, writing and editing, graphics, design, publishing software, organization of staff and resources, business operations, and budgeting. Students who elect to take the course more than once refine and expand their knowledge and skills, accept increasing responsibility for production, and assume leadership roles.

Prerequisite(s): *Journalism*

A40 | Yearbook 1–4 0.5/sem

Students publish a yearbook by collaboratively learning and applying the following aspects of production: technology, theme, design, layout, graphics, writing and editing, photography, organization of staff and resources, business operations, and budgeting. They analyze publications using national criteria and develop a code of ethics. Students who elect to take the course more than once refine and expand their knowledge and skills, accept increasing responsibility for production, and assume leadership roles.

Prerequisite(s): *Journalism*

A45 | Literary Magazine 1–4 0.5/sem

Students study/apply design fundamentals and advanced publishing techniques to contribute to a literary publication with a thematic concept. They evaluate a variety of professional and student media, develop and apply a code of ethics, and create plans to ensure diversity and wide participation. Students who elect to take the course more than once refine and expand their knowledge and skills, accept increasing responsibility for production, and assume leadership roles.

Recommended: *Journalism*

A51 | Speech & Debate 1–2 0.5/sem

Students perform informative and persuasive speaking, practice extemporaneous and oral interpretation skills, collect evidence from authoritative sources, and analyze arguments and strategies as preparation for interscholastic competition culminating in debate. Students develop leadership skills and initiative in competitive speaking. The Speech and Debate course provides a strong foundation for careers in public relations, law, politics, or communications. Students who elect to take the course for a second semester enhance and deepen their skills in expressive and persuasive speaking.

NCAA

A747 | Honors Contemporary Voices 0.5sem

College-bound juniors and seniors analyze issues, perspectives, and author's craft in a range of multicultural works through guided and independent study, seminar, and writing. While the subjects may be historical, the voice of each author is decidedly contemporary in that it gives full expression to a frank examination of human sexuality, of violence, and of social and economic status; therefore, parents must give written permission to register a student in this course.

Prerequisite(s): *Written parent permission required. Successful completion of MCAP, and a 'C' or better in English 10 strongly recommended.*

NCAA–DUAL (JA7400)

W710 | Foundations of Language & Literacy 0.5/sem

This course is designed to meet the needs of striving readers who will participate in a research-based reading intervention program that builds phonemic awareness, phonics, reading comprehension, academic vocabulary, and writing skills. Students who need extra support in decoding, including Special Education students and English-Language learners, will be assigned to this course.

W800 | Core Reading in the Secondary Classroom A

[FY] 0.5/sem

Read 180 is a highly differentiated reading intervention that accelerates instruction and allows struggling readers to experience success. The program directly addresses individual needs through adaptive and instructional software, high-interest literature, and direct instruction in reading, writing, and vocabulary skills. This reading intervention is provided for students who have been identified as needing focused and intensive reading instruction in addition to their regular English 9 class. Students are placed in this program only after testing or evaluation.

W82 | Core Reading in the Secondary Classroom B

[FY] 0.5/sem

In this course, students continue their work in the Read 180 program, a highly differentiated reading intervention that directly addresses individual needs through adaptive and instructional software, high-interest literature, and direct instruction in reading, writing, and vocabulary skills. This reading intervention is provided for students who have been identified as needing focused and intensive reading instruction in addition to their regular English 9 class. Students are placed in this program only after testing or evaluation.

W09 | Strategic Reading Supports

[FY] 0.5/sem

Approved alternate intervention programs are available for individual students with unique learning needs requiring a reading intervention in addition to receiving services for special education. Enrollment in an alternative reading intervention program requires approval from resource staff from the Division of Curriculum and Instruction on an individual student, case-by-case basis. An alternative program may be necessary when a student's needs in reading require an intervention that is not one of the Tier 2 or Tier 3 interventions listed on the AACPS Reading Continuum (credit bearing coursework).

W78 | Steps for Striving Readers

0.5 elective credit/sem

This course is designed to provide the necessary reading supports for students requiring specific decoding strategies and skills as they grow to become proficient readers.

A87 | Department Aide—English No

credit

English Aide courses offer students the opportunity to assist instructors in preparing and organizing course curricula. While serving in this capacity, students may provide tutorial or instructional assistance to other students.