



## ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

In order to graduate, students must pass the Comprehensive Regents Examination in English Language Arts, generally taken at the end of their junior year. Students who wish to earn a Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation must pass eight Regents exams with a score of 65 or better; one of these must be the English Regents exam. In addition, the student must choose either two additional credits in a World Language and pass the Checkpoint B exam or a five-unit sequence in the Arts or Career and Technical Education (CTE).

In order to graduate, students must earn four credits of ELA at the commencement-level. The core content sequence is typically English 9, English 10, English 11, and English 12. However, students may choose to take the College-in-the-High-School in English language arts to replace a core course or for elective credit. The International Baccalaureate Language A Literature course (2 credits) may also replace two courses within the core sequence. Additional offerings are listed and explained in the District Course Catalogue.

Students who do not successfully complete core courses may be asked to participate in credit recovery programs to make up credits. Depending on the course in which the student needs to earn credit, credit recovery may be offered via summer school, repeater courses scheduled during the school year, or online.

### ENGLISH 9 (1 course credit)

English 9 is aligned to State standards. This course focuses on reading, writing, and critical thinking. Students will participate in a variety of class activities that help build independence and proficiency in reading at grade level and developing analytical skills. Persuasive writing and literary analysis are a focus of this course. Students will engage with units of research, narrative novel study, and speeches for equality. Students will read a variety of literary and non-fiction texts. Some of the texts may include *Julius Caesar*, *Oedipus Rex*, or *Romeo and Juliet*, *Speak*, *The Absolute True Diary of a Part-time Indian*, *Of Mice and Men*, *All the Right Stuff*, *The Hate You Give*, *Sold*, and *The Outsiders*.

### ENGLISH 10 (1 course credit)

English 10 is aligned to State standards and focuses on the craft of writing in the 21st century. Students will explore how contemporary writers and artists make deliberate choices to have an impact on the reader; specifically, how artists wrestle with complex issues in our modern world. Independent reading will be emphasized. Students will engage with units around creative writing, the power of language, and narrative novel study. Students will read a variety of literary and non-fiction texts. Some of the texts may include: *Odd One Out*, *Allegedly*, *Children of Blood and Bone*, *Dread Nation*, *Long Way Down*, *Simon vs. Homosapien Agenda*, *The Breadwinner*, *Unwind*, *Where Things Come Back*, and *The Paper Menagerie*.

## TIPS FOR PARENTS

Teenagers benefit from a regular sleep schedule.

Set aside a designated homework space. Your student should do schoolwork each night, even if work isn't due right away. Students can review notes taken during class or read a novel or textbook.

Expect students to write daily. Encourage them to use the strategies they learn in school. Writing about what they have read improves comprehension.

Model good reading habits. If your child sees you reading, then he will be more likely to become a reader, too.

Talk to students about what they are learning. You don't need to ask them about grades, just actual content.

Encourage reading everywhere. Bring along books in the car, at the doctor's office, etc.

Ensure your student has a system for recording due dates. Help students map out due dates for each part of a project (e.g., bibliography, research, draft, revisions).

## ENGLISH 11 (1 course credit)

The English 11 curriculum is aligned to State standards and continues to develop students' skill in preparation for the Regents exam that comes at the end of the course. This course is a study of how the American experience is reflected in American literature. Students will continue to hone their writing and critical thinking skills through literary and non-fiction texts. Argumentative writing is emphasized. A significant amount of time will be spent preparing for the ELA exam given in June. In preparation for higher-level reading, students will learn reading strategies for complex texts. Some of the texts to which students will be exposed may include: *Awakenings*, *Girl in Pieces*, *American Street*, *Boy in the Black Suit*, *List of Cages*, *Orbiting Jupiter*, *Trash*, *Girl Mans Up*, *All the Broken Pieces*, *Jumped In*, *The Things They Carried*, *Fences*, *Anthem*, and *House on Mango Street*.

## ENGLISH 12 (1 course credit)

The English 12 curriculum is aligned to State standards and focuses on preparing students for college and careers. Three main areas of focus include identity in literature and life, 21st century literacy, and communication skills. Students will strengthen their writing, reading, speaking, and listening skills in preparation for their post-secondary experience. Students will develop a portfolio throughout the year and produce a senior project, which allows students to demonstrate mastery in the three main types of writing – narrative, persuasive, and informative.

## ENGLISH 12: CHS ADVANCED COLLEGE PREP (1 course credit)

This challenging College-in-the-High-School course is for students who want a rigorous course with an opportunity to earn 6 college credits. In the first semester, students will participate in an intensive writing course and will demonstrate mastery in utilizing the writing process and producing cohesive and effective essays. During the second semester, students critically analyze literature, exploring such issues as how literature reflects the human experience and writer's craft. Students will participate in a variety of classroom activities to develop their understanding of literary analysis and foster their communication skills.

## ADDITIONAL ENGLISH COURSES

ENGLISH 9 and 10 PRE IB, ENGLISH 11 H, ENGLISH 11 IB, ENGLISH 12 IB (A1 Year1 and Year 2), HEROS AND LEGENDS (.5 credits), HORROR FILM AND FICTION (.5 credits), HIP HOP AS LITERATURE (.5 credits), POWER OF WORDS (.5 credits), BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS, INTRO TO EDUCATION CHS, JOURNALISM, VOICES OF SCHENECTADY, AFRICAN AMERICAN LITERATURE (.5 credits)

