

ENGLISH

English 9: This required course is designed to develop students reading and writing skills through the systematic study of grammar and composition, both in their own writings and those of others. Students will gain an understanding of analyzing literature through the work of Poe, Steinbeck, Alexie, Wiesel, Wells, Faulkner and Shakespeare. Students will evaluate persuasive techniques and the effectiveness, figurative language, research elements, beginning linguistic, and gain an increase understanding of the basics of English composition (including plot, character, theme, etc.). Writing assignments and projects focus on all forms of composition - expository, descriptive, creative, analytical, and persuasive.

English 10: The focus of this second-level course is the examination of America's values, conflicts and cultural heritage through the study and appreciation of American literature. Students are expected to engage in analytical and interpretative thought and are given several writing assignments throughout the term to assist in the continued development of composition skills.

English 11: *In this course students are exposed to the rich literary heritage of European and non-western cultures, including novels, plays, and poetry. Writing assignments reflect a stronger emphasis on critical thinking and expression of ideas, as well as more sophisticated thematic analysis and interpretive techniques.*

English 12: Intended to act as a capstone of the English curriculum, this final required course will focus on advanced techniques of composition, with the intention of assisting students in expressing themselves and their ideas clearly and effectively. Students will be expected to demonstrate a thorough understanding of style, rhetoric, syntax and structure, and should be proficient in more advanced sentence and paragraph constructions. Students will explore literature from around the world. Techniques of argument and persuasion will be emphasized, as will research techniques and MLA drafting standards. Prerequisite: English 9-11 or concurrent enrollment.

Creative Writing: This course will explore the effectiveness of character development, setting, tone, mood, voice, dialogue, and structure in a variety of literature. Students will develop an understanding of poetry, screenwriting, fiction and non-fiction through the examination of literary work and the editing and rewriting of their own projects.

Individual Writing Studies: Students will develop a deep understanding of a specific genre. In this course, writers will learn the essential elements of the genre with special attention given to the art of storytelling.

Mexican American Studies

This course is designed to introduce students to the Mexican-American constituencies, and educate on public relations, politics and minority affairs. Introduction to the Mexican-American struggle.

Course Overview:

Sociology: This course is designed to give students a greater understanding on how to deal with the social atmosphere that helps to make us who we are and how we behave. Sociology will cover topics such as culture, violence, deviance, social control, socialization and personality. The key component of this course is to study ourselves and the society that influences our behavior.