

English

It is the philosophy of the English Department of Bethlehem Catholic High School that each student is unique, important and deserving of an education that will aid him/her to reach his/her fullest potential as a Christian person.

We believe it is not only possible, but also necessary to develop in the student a self-awareness and personal growth, an effective use of the English language, and an enjoyment of and appreciation for the language in all its forms

ENGLISH 9 (SURVEY OF LITERATURE)

Credit 1.00 Level 2

English 9 offers the students a wide variety of outstanding literature and introduces them to literary terms and their use in short stories, poetry, drama, and the novel. Instruction will focus on the enhancement of critical thinking skills. Students also study the fundamentals of grammar, improve vocabulary skills, and practice public speaking. The writing program, while using as its core the required reading selections, calls for emphasis on effective sentence structure through practice in paragraph development, some work with the essay and an introduction to the research process.

HONORS ENGLISH 9 (SURVEY OF LITERATURE)

Credit 1.00 Level 3

In addition to the requirements of English 9, students must demonstrate a more advanced degree of critical thinking skills in their analysis, writing, and speaking. Students are required to make frequent oral presentations and write literature-based essays. Honors English 9 is designed to prepare students to take the advanced English course on the sophomore level.

****Placement is based upon the results of the English Placement Test****

ENGLISH 10 (AMERICAN LITERATURE)

Credit 1.00 Level 2

English 10 focuses on the styles, techniques, and themes of American authors and on the value and historic influence of literature on nationalism. Instruction will focus on the enhancement of critical thinking skills. There is continued emphasis on vocabulary enrichment, grammar skills usage and the practice of the writing process. Students will continue to practice public speaking and learn research skills. The writing program on the sophomore level aims to endow the students with the necessary skills to produce a variety of well-organized and fully developed papers.

HONORS ENGLISH 10 (AMERICAN LITERATURE)

Credit 1.00 Level 3

Honors English 10 is designed to prepare students to take advanced English courses on the junior and senior levels. In addition to the requirements of English 10, students must demonstrate a more advanced degree of critical thinking skills in their analysis, writing and speaking.

Prerequisite: *The top 70% of the Honors English 9 class (based on the Final Average) will*

be placed in Honors English 10. English 9 students who have a grade of 95%, acceptable standardized test scores and Department Chairperson approval may be considered.

**ENGLISH 11
(BRITISH LITERATURE)**

Credit 1.00 Level 2

English 11 provides an overview of major British authors from Anglo-Saxon times to the twentieth century. Development of writing and critical thinking skills continues at this level. Grammar skills usage and vocabulary enrichment will be reviewed and integrated into more sophisticated skills of rhetoric and composition. Study of the MLA style of writing research papers begins.

**HONORS ENGLISH 11
(BRITISH LITERATURE)**

Credit 1.00 Level 3

Honors English 11 is designed to prepare the students to take college credit courses on the senior level. No student will be admitted into this course without having taken Honors English 10. In addition to the requirements of English 11, students must demonstrate a more advanced degree of critical thinking skills in their analysis, writing and speaking. Students will be required to produce original works in poetry and narrative prose and give presentations on individual reading assignments and research in the classics.

Prerequisite: *The top 75% of students (based on the Final Average) in Honors English 10 will be placed in Honors English 11 with the approval of the current teacher.*

**AP ENGLISH 11
(Advanced Placement English Language)**

Credit 1.00 Level 4

An AP course in English Language and Composition engages students in becoming skilled readers of prose written in a variety of rhetorical contexts, and in becoming skilled writers who compose for a variety of purposes. Both their writing and their reading should make students aware of the interactions among a writer's purposes, audience expectations, and subjects, as well as the way genre conventions and the resources of language contribute to effectiveness in writing.

Prerequisite: *This class is open to the top 30% (maximum 25 students) in Honors English 10 (based on final average). Current teacher approval.*

**ENGLISH 12
(WORLD LITERATURE)**

Credit 1.00 Level 2

English 12 surveys modern fiction, drama, and poetry of Western civilization. Students are introduced to literary theory and critical writing about literature is stressed. Students continue to study grammar and vocabulary in conjunction with literature to increase reading and writing skills. Study of the MLA style of writing research papers continues and students are required to write a major research paper.

HONORS ENGLISH 12 (WORLD LITERATURE)

Credit 1.00 Level 3

In addition to the requirements of English 12 there is a special emphasis on enhanced critical thinking and writing skills. Creative writing and research will aid preparation for college.

Prerequisite: *A minimum Final Average of 90% in Honors English 11 and the approval of the current teacher.*

AP ENGLISH 12 (Advanced Placement English Literature)

Credit 1.00 Level 4

AP English 12 provides the students with opportunities to increase their analytical and critical skills in thinking, reading, and writing on the college level. Emphasis is placed on literary analysis contributing to the student's understanding of the principles involved in making insightful interpretations of literature. Speaking and listening skills are polished through oral presentations on assigned classics and grammar is reviewed through the writing process. Students are required to write a major research paper. The Advanced Placement Test is a requirement

Prerequisite: *Course is open only to the top 25 students from Honors English 11 based on Final average and present teacher approval.*

JOURNALISM

Credit 1.00 Level 2

Journalism is an elective course open to juniors and seniors who have an interest in writing, layout design, and photography. This course introduces the students to the basics of newspaper production through theory as well as practice. The students develop creative, organizational, and computer skills while working together as a team to produce *The Hawk*, the school newspaper.

Prerequisite: *A minimum Final average of 85% in English and Teacher of course approval. Students may be asked to submit a writing sample.*

YEARBOOK

Credit 1.00 Level 2

Yearbook is an elective course open to juniors and seniors who have an interest in writing, layout design, and photography. This course introduces students to the basics of yearbook production through theory as well as practice. The students develop creative, organizational and computer skills while working as a team to produce *The Sceptre*, the school yearbook.

Prerequisite: *Teacher of course approval*

PUBLIC SPEAKING (1 semester)

Credit 0.5 Level 2

The public speaking course will provide students with opportunities to learn how to be effective public speakers and listeners in their academic, work, and social lives. They will have the opportunity to view and analyze different types of speeches; write their own speeches for various purposes and audiences; learn the difference between public writing and public speaking; understand ethics in speeches; learn how to eliminate fillers in speech; listen effectively; prepare and present (not read) Power Point presentations; use media effectively in an oral presentation; structure a speech.

Prerequisites: *Open to Juniors and Seniors; must be approved by their current English teacher and sign in by the course teacher.*