

## English Language Arts Courses 2019-2020

### **English I (Grade 9)**

English I is the first year of a four-year sequence in English required of all students for high school graduation. Based on the theme Self and Others and on a variety of thinking skills, English I presents a wide range of activities designed to extend mastery in literature and reading, writing, grammar, word study, discussion, and study/research skills. Literary works studied include To Kill a Mockingbird, Old Man and the Sea, The Glass Menagerie, Romeo and Juliet, and a wide selection of short stories, essays and poetry.

*Prerequisite(s): None*

*Grade(s): 9*

*Credit: 1*

*Meets: 5 periods weekly*

### **English II (Grade 10)**

Students continue to develop and refine their language skills in English II. In writing they develop a sense of form and methods of discourse for descriptive, narrative and expository paragraphs and essays using the writing process. Gaining an awareness of sentence variety, transitions, and topic sentences, students increase their proficiency in editing and proofreading. In literature students focus on the theme Individual and Society as they read novels, short stories, drama, and poetry. Literary works include The Catcher in the Rye, Lord of the Flies, and Julius Caesar. Students expand their understanding of the nature and functions of language, develop listening habits, enlarge their vocabularies, and enhance their study skills.

*Prerequisite(s): None*

*Grade(s): 10*

*Credit: 1*

*Meets: 5 periods weekly*

### **College Prep Writing (Co-registered with English II and AP Seminar)**

The goal of this course is to provide superior composition instruction for Jericho students - instruction that exceeds the minimal standards set by the State and prepares students for the writing demands of the most selective colleges. In this course, students write and present research reports, feature articles and thesis/support papers on a variety of topics related to all school subjects. Students practice such genres of writing argument, description and narration-genres important to college writing as well as to the new English and Social Studies Regents and AP Examinations. Students learn effective prewriting and revision

strategies and employ an increasingly apt vocabulary to write insightfully to a variety of audiences for a variety of purposes.

*Prerequisite(s): None*

*Grade(s): 10*

*Credit: 0.5*

*Meets: 5 periods weekly*

### **English III (Grade 11)**

The points of view and themes of American writers comprise the major elements of this eleventh-grade English course. Specific literary works include: The Scarlet Letter, The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, The Great Gatsby, The Crucible, and Death of a Salesman. In addition, students read the English tragedy Macbeth. As each piece of literature is read, its historical, psychological, and philosophical backgrounds are presented and discussed. Speaking and listening are important aspects of this learning process. The analytical and argumentative essays as well as narration and description are emphasized in students' writing. SAT preparation is included in the study of vocabulary, grammar and reading comprehension.

Students taking this course complete the English Regents.

*Prerequisite(s): None*

*Grade(s): 11*

*Credit: 1*

*Meets: 5 periods weekly*

### **English IV (Grade 12)**

English IV is the required full-year course of fourth-year English. Students trace the development of the hero through a survey of literature from the Greek Age to the Anglo-Saxon Period to the Modern Era. Literary works, such as Oedipus Rex, Beowulf, Hamlet, and The Stranger, are included as well as poetry. In addition, students research a topic of their own choice and use the resources of the library to locate information. In mastering the format of the research paper, students focus on unity and coherence in their writing and prepare for future academic work.

*Prerequisite(s): None*

*Grade(s): 12*

*Credit: 1*

*Meets: 5 periods weekly*

### **Advanced Placement Seminar (Grade 10)**

The course is designed to teach the skills necessary to understand and produce evidence-based arguments in a variety of methods. Students investigate real-world

issues from multiple perspectives, gathering and analyzing information from various sources in order to develop credible and valid evidence-based arguments. The course uses an interdisciplinary approach to explore complex questions using diverse perspectives and points of view. The skills practiced in the course will be assessed throughout by such things as: individual research presentations, team research presentations, and college level reading and writing skills examinations. 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Students Only (1 English Credit) - Must be co-registered with College Prep Writing

*Prerequisite(s): None*

*Grade(s): 10*

*Credit: 1*

*Meets: 5 periods weekly*

### **Advanced Placement Language and Composition**

Students gain an understanding of the principles of effective writing. They read and analyze fiction, drama and various prose texts for use as models of effective writing styles. They complete a variety of writing assignments employing different styles for various purposes. They aim for rhetorical effects through diction and sentence patterns. AP Comp is designed for students with a high interest in reading, analysis, and writing. Students electing to take this course as juniors should have demonstrated an outstanding level of achievement in writing and in reading literature. The course requires a summer reading and writing assignment as well as independent course work during the year. Students taking this course complete the English Regents. All students take the AP Exam at the conclusion of the course.

*Prerequisite(s): None*

*Grade(s): 11*

*Credit: 1*

*Meets: 5 periods weekly*

### **Advanced Placement Literature and Composition**

In this full-year college-level course, students are engaged in an intensive study of literature as they read short stories, novels, plays and poetry. A sampling of readings includes Oedipus, Hamlet, Jane Eyre, Hedda Gabler, Heart of Darkness, The Stranger, The Sun Also Rises, short stories by J.D. Salinger and James Joyce, and poetry from Wordsworth to T.S. Eliot. Students write frequently and assignments are varied. Through conferences with the teacher, students develop recognition of their strengths and strategies to improve their writing. There

is a summer reading and writing assignment. All students take the Advanced Placement Examination at the conclusion of the course.

Seniors may take this course for college credit through Stony Brook University.

*Prerequisite(s): None*

*Grade(s): 12*

*Credit: 1*

*Meets: 5 periods weekly*

### **Creative Writing (C)**

In this collaborative course with Molloy College, students will develop creativity in such forms as short story, informal essay, and original verse. Using new and traditional media, students will read and analyze texts, and produce their own works for personal enjoyment, publication and contest entry. Seniors for whom this course is their fourth year English requirement will complete a research project. A variety of writing rubrics will differentiate criteria for students in different grade levels. This course is open to juniors and sophomores but only for high school credit.

Seniors may take this course for college credit through Molloy College.

*Prerequisite(s): None*

*Grade(s): 11, 12*

*Credit: 1*

*Meets: 5 periods weekly*

### **Ways of Seeing I**

Ways of Seeing is a humanities-based course for 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders will explore how writers and artists can shape the course of history. This course will analyze literary and visual texts (art, architecture, film, graphic novels, and media) and their impact on history, as well as current society. This blended learning classroom combines class discussions, field trips, guest speakers, online resources, and real world experiences to deepen student understanding of the curriculum. Assessments will come in the forms of analytical and argumentative essays, as well as multi-media presentations, film documentaries, hands-on activities, personal responses, and independent research projects. This elective course will offer 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students an opportunity to choose a topic of study and develop an inquiry project culminating in a term paper that incorporates digital research. Seniors may take this course for college credit through St. John's University.

*Prerequisite(s): None*

*Grade(s): 11, 12*

*Credit: 0.5*

*Meets: 5 periods weekly*

## **Ways of Seeing II**

This is a humanities-based course for 11th and 12th graders that will explore how writers and artists can shape the course of history. This course will analyze literary and visual texts (art, architecture, film, graphic novels, and media) and their impact on history, as well as current society. This blended learning classroom combines class discussions, field trips, guest speakers, online resources, and real world experiences to deepen student understanding of the curriculum. Assessments will come in the forms of analytical and argumentative essays, as well as multi-media presentations, film documentaries, hands-on activities, personal responses, and independent research projects. This elective course will offer the 11th and 12th grade students an opportunity to choose a topic of study and develop an inquiry project culminating in a term paper that incorporates digital research.

*Prerequisite(s): None*

*Grade(s): 11, 12*

*Credit: 0.5*

*Meets: 5 periods weekly*

## **Asian-American Literature (Not offered in 2019-2020)**

What does it mean to belong to two distinct cultures simultaneously? Through a survey of Asian-American Literature, poetry, and films, students will explore how texts and visual mediums give voice to issues regarding identity and culture. There will be an emphasis on the coming-of age journey, immigration, the evolution of subcultures, interracial relations, assimilation, gender and cultural stereotypes. Students from both Western and Eastern backgrounds will share in this dialogue, responding to universal conflicts and themes. Some of the authors who will be considered in this course are: Maxine Hong Kingston, John Okada, Chang Rae Lee, Jhumpa Lahiri, Amy Tan, Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni, Frank Chin Carlos Bulosan, and Elaine Kim.

*Prerequisite(s): None*

*Grade(s): 9, 10, 11, 12*

*Credit: 0.5*

*Meets: 5 periods weekly*

## **Film Study**

Students view films ranging from the earliest to the most current experiment in the medium. With visual literacy as the goal of the course, students examine film as literature and ultimately learn how to read a film. Students are responsible for various projects and papers throughout the course.

*Prerequisite(s): None*

*Grade(s): 11, 12*

*Credit: 0.5*

*Meets: 5 periods weekly*

### **Myths and Legends from Homer to Harry Potter**

This course will examine the connection between ancient myths, legends and folk lore such as Norse, Greek and Roman mythology, Arthurian legends, American folk lore, and modern legend like the Harry Potter series and the Lord of the Rings books.

*Prerequisite(s): None*

*Grade(s): 9, 10, 11, 12*

*Credit: 0.5*

*Meets: 5 periods weekly*

### **New Media Communications/Journalism**

New Media Communications/Journalism will teach students the skills necessary for communication in the digital age. This course will use the production of the new online newspaper as the vehicle to teach students skills of traditional literacy as well as those of: information literacy, media literacy, videography, digital audio recording and editing, web design, and digital publication. Students will learn the skills of reporting, writing, and editing including: interviewing skills, research methods, copy writing and editing, and news broadcasting. In addition to these real world skills, students will consider the ethics and business of producing news with particular emphasis on the issues presented when doing so on the Internet. The students in the course will be responsible for planning and producing the new JerEcho—a most important record of life at Jericho High School.

*Prerequisite(s): None*

*Grade(s): 9, 10, 11, 12*

*Credit: 1*

*Meets: 5 periods weekly*

### **New Media Communications II (Journalism Sequence)**

In New Media Communications II (NMC II), students will further their exploration of the role of journalists in society. They will produce longer, more in-depth news features and documentaries employing each of the four types of media commonly used by today's on-line journalists: article writing, photojournalism, video broadcasting, and audio podcasting. Students in NMC II are expected to take leadership roles in producing our school's on-line news service and in working closely with the members of our school's JerEcho club to produce the highest quality content possible for publication on our website.

*Prerequisite(s): New Media Communications*

*Grade(s): 10, 11, 12*

*Credit: 1*

*Meets: 5 periods weekly*

### **New Media Communications III (Journalism Sequence)**

In New Media Communications III (NMC III), students will strengthen their communication and leadership skills by focusing their learning and efforts on the publication of the *JerEcho* domain. NMC III students will learn web design and be responsible for publishing the Wordpress site. In addition, they will coordinate promotion and distribution efforts including social media and traditional publicity outlets. Students will evaluate current ways information is shared in our community and work to solve problems that interfere with how students stay informed of school news. NMC III students will work to increase outreach to student organizations, sports, and clubs in order to increase the *JerEcho*'s mission of being the journal of student life at Jericho High School.

*Prerequisite(s): New Media Communications I & II*

*Grade(s):12*

*Credit: 1*

*Meets: 5 periods weekly*

### **Introduction to Public Speaking**

This half-year elective course is designed to equip freshmen and sophomore students with the speech and communication tools that will be useful for their entire high school career and beyond. Students will improve their ability to speak effectively to their peers and larger audiences, find solutions for stage-fright or speech anxiety, explore their "voice," learn how to use technology to enrich their presentations, perform monologues and skits, enhance their interview skills, analyze and deliver speeches, and understand the interplay between verbal mechanics (vocal variety, volume, speed, enunciation, and pronunciation) and body language (poise, posture, body language, eye contact, facial expressions).

*Prerequisite(s): None*

*Grade(s): 9, 10*

*Credit: 0.5*

*Meets: 5 periods weekly*

### **Public Speaking II (C)**

Public Speaking is a half-year course that introduces students to the basic elements of effective communication. By developing a theoretical foundation in rhetoric, engaging in playful improvisation exercises, and analyzing, writing, and delivering

speeches, students will obtain the practical skills that are necessary for successful public speaking in their daily and professional lives.

Seniors may take this course for college credit through St. John's University.

*Prerequisite(s): None*

*Grade(s): 11, 12*

*Credit: 0.5*

*Meets: 5 periods weekly*

### **SAT Verbal (Not offered in 2019-2020)**

This course is designed to prepare students for the new SAT. Students will be provided with instruction and practice in grammar, composition and critical reading skills. These areas are central to the new SAT examination. This course will be pass/fail.

*Prerequisite(s): None*

*Grade(s): 9, 10,11, 12*

*Credit: 0.5*

*Meets: 5 periods weekly*