

ENGLISH

FRESHMAN SEMINAR (ENGLISH 9) (1000)

Freshman Seminar is a required class designed to provide the foundational skills for subsequent high school English classes, the Regents Exam (administered to students in 11th grade), and college and career readiness. Students read, interpret, and respond in writing to a variety of texts, both fiction and nonfiction, including but not limited to William Shakespeare's *The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet*, Homer's *The Odyssey*, various short stories, essays, and poems. Research skills and evidence-based writing will also be addressed.

Credit: 1 unit (40 weeks)

Prerequisite: English 8

MULTI-AGE ELECTIVES

Students in grades 10 through 12 not enrolled in a year-long Advanced Placement English course will select their ELA course based on their choice for their 20 week elective for the Fall semester. All electives will be skills-based and prepare students for the English Regents Exam. Students will be able to select a class based on interest. Students enrolled in an Advanced Placement English course may also enroll in an elective if their schedule permits. **ALL students will automatically be enrolled in Writer's Notebook/Shared Literary Experience for the next 20 weeks.**

WRITER'S NOTEBOOK/SHARED LITERARY EXPERIENCE (1303)

This is a required second semester course for all students in grades 10 through 12 who are not enrolled in an Advanced Placement English course and will consist of two parts: Writer's Notebook and the Shared Literary Experience. Writer's Notebook is a 10-week exploration of the writing process, to include writing in various tasks outside of the traditional academic writing format. The Shared Literary Experience is a 10-week unit in which all students will study a drama or novel.

FRIGHT FICTION/WRITER'S NOTEBOOK (1107)

Do you enjoy a good scary movie or story? If you do, this is the course for you! This course is intended to be a literary overview of "things that go bump in the night". Expect to read and study short works from Edgar Allan Poe and Stephen King along with Shirley Jackson's novel *The Haunting of Hill House*. Sign up if you dare.....

Credit: 1 unit (40 weeks)

Prerequisite: English 9

IT'S THE END OF THE WORLD AS WE KNOW IT: DYSTOPIAN AND UTOPIAN LITERATURE/WRITER'S NOTEBOOK (1109)

Would you want to live in a world where everything was perfect? Most utopian societies are actually dystopian and darker in nature upon second glance. Ray Bradbury's thrilling and thought provoking Science Fiction and Dystopian stories will take center stage in this course through short stories, a novel and film clips. We will study why this genre of literature is so popular with teenagers today and will draw sometimes frightening comparisons to today's society. May the odds be ever in your favor.....

Credit: 1 unit (40 weeks)

Prerequisite: English 9

WHODUNNIT?: DETECTIVE FICTION AND THE MYSTERY/WRITER'S NOTEBOOK (1111)

Do you love a good puzzle? Do you enjoy watching a mystery unfold and trying to guess *whodunnit*? Through literature and film, this course will explore the beginnings of detective fiction and delve into the mystery "greats", including Agatha Christie, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, his famous sleuth Sherlock Holmes and others. Did the butler do it? Sign up to find out.....

Credit: 1 unit (40 weeks)

Prerequisite: English 9

SATIRE AND MIXED MEDIA: THE ART OF CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM/WRITER'S NOTEBOOK (1110)

Have you ever wondered what lies at the heart of satire? What is the purpose of the well-crafted political cartoon, stand-up comedy routine or situation comedy? This class will examine the history of satire, parody and how it functions as constructive criticism. As we explore the role of satire in mixed media, we will dig deeper to explore how it provides us with insight into our morals and values and presents us with the opportunity to both examine and to change our society as a whole.

Credit: 1 unit (40 weeks)

Prerequisite: English 9

MAN VS. SUPERMAN: THE GRAPHIC NOVEL/WRITER'S NOTEBOOK (1108)

Are “Graphic Novels” literature? What exactly is a “Graphic Novel”? Why should I care? In **Man vs. Superman: The Graphic Novel** we look into the long history of sequential art (think “ancient Egypt”), and discuss how comics (single, multi-panel, and graphic novels) have evolved as a legitimate storytelling medium in the 20th and 21st centuries. Some of the questions we will seek answers to are how comics help tell the story of the immigrant experience, how comics reflect societal fears and hopes, and how comics address cultural and societal change. Along the way we will read excerpts from Scott McCloud’s *Understanding Comics*, as well as the work of seminal creators such as Stan Lee, Siegel and Shuster, Kane and Finger, Frank Miller and Alan Moore. So, whether you love comics or just a great story, come join us as we travel “Up, up and away” in our search for “Truth, Justice and the American Way.”

Credit: 1 unit (40 weeks)

Prerequisite: English 9

SPORTS FICTION/WRITER'S NOTEBOOK (1113)

Are you ready for some competition? If you like reading stories about athletes pushing themselves to their limits and finding out what they are made of, this is the class for you. Sports can unite us, challenge us, divide us and entertain us. In this class, we will read various stories that track athletes as they prepare for the big match, game, or meet. Many of these stories can teach us life lessons and are usually about much more than just a game. Do you have what it takes?

Credit: 1 unit (40 weeks)

Prerequisite: English 9

ADVANCED PLACEMENT ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION/NCCC (1220)

The focus of our AP English Language and Composition curriculum is to help students become “skilled readers of prose written in a variety of rhetorical contexts, and skilled writers who compose for a variety of purposes” (College Board, AP Language Course Description). With that in mind, students can expect to read and respond to a variety of texts, examining each for the author's purpose, meaning, tone, and rhetorical strategy.

Our readings will be culled from various sources: non-fiction (both biography and essay); fiction (both long and short); and drama (from Shakespeare to Arthur Miller). Students can also expect to write often for a variety of purposes, such as exposition, analysis and argument.

Students will have the choice of taking the AP English Language and Composition course for either AP credit or Niagara Community College credit. Because the course stands in place of a first-year college composition course, successful completion of this course, and a favorable score on the AP exam at the end of the year if taken for AP credit, may exempt participating students from freshman college English. Students can expect a high level of rigor in both reading and writing in the course.

Credit: 1 unit (40 weeks)

Prerequisites: Admission to the program is by application and includes a recommendation from the student's previous English teacher and counselor.

Exam: AP Exam is required for AP credit, no exam for NCCC credit.

Fee: Approximately \$96 for AP credit, \$246 for NCCC credit – financial aid available to those that qualify.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION/NCCC (1320)

This course is comparable to freshman college English literature and prepares students to take the Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition examination given in May of each year. If the AP exam score warrants such a decision, participating students may be exempt from freshman college English or may be placed in an advanced group depending on the policy of the specific college. This course develops a student's writing ability and a sense of what constitutes good style and expression. A thorough study of denotation, connotation, imagery, figurative language, tone, etc. made, through interpretation and evaluation of prose and poetry. Also, individual research projects involving the study of novelists and their works are included.

Credit: 1 unit (40 weeks)
Prerequisites: Admission to the program is by application and includes a recommendation from the student's previous English teacher and counselor.
Exam: AP Exam is required. Fee approximately \$96 – financial aid available to those that qualify.

CREATIVE WRITING (NCCC) (1112)

The Creative Writing course is a class for students who enjoy writing as a form of art, as well as personal expression. The goal of this course is to familiarize students with different genres of creative writing (i.e. poetry, short stories, novels and drama) for the purpose of exploring and developing a unique and personal style of writing. Students will be expected to participate in writing workshops, author studies and peer review conferences, as well as immerse themselves in the writing process. Additionally, students are encouraged to share their written work with the school community. **As a prerequisite, students who would like to earn credit from NCCC must have passed either English 101 OR earned a 3 or higher on AP Language and Composition exam.**

Prerequisite: Passed English 101 OR Earned a 3 or higher on AP Language and Composition exam
Credit: 1 unit/3 college credits from NCCC
Tuition Cost: \$237 (\$79/credit=3 credits) Subject to change

PUBLIC SPEAKING (NUSTEP) (1480)

*This course is one of the semester-long electives offered but is only available to 12th graders as it is a class offered through Niagara University for college credit. It does not prepare students for the English Regents Exam.

This course is designed to assist students with the necessary skills to become better communicators. The course teaches students how to speak effectively in public under different scenarios, with the goal to provide students with an atmosphere of positive reinforcement and constructive feedback. Students learn how to organize ideas and present information to a particular audience.

Students will be equipped with the skills to enable them to practice different types of oral presentations. They learn how to use nonverbal signals, body language, and visual aids during their speeches. Critical thinking skills, through the use of organizational and language strategies, will improve language skills necessary to communicate effectively.

Public speaking is one of the top-rated fears among most people. Ultimately this course will provide students with the knowledge that will be useful in postsecondary education and/or their future livelihood. Students will be trained on how to deliver an effective message to a particular audience with confidence and enthusiasm. This course is one of the electives to choose from for 12th English credit. Students are able to earn three college credits through Niagara University (NUSTEP).

Prerequisite: Two credits of high school English and a passing score on the English Regents exam.
Credit: 1/2 unit (20 weeks) from Lewiston-Porter/3 college credits from Niagara University
Tuition Cost: Approximately \$250