

## **English Department**

### **Philosophy**

The English Department prepares students for college level academic programs and provides them with the necessary English language skills. The curriculum is designed to instill in students a respect and engagement with literature as well as build their writing, speaking, and other communication skills. The most important part of the program is its ability through individualized approaches to develop each student's potential and interests into a lifelong enthusiasm for the English language.

### **Objectives**

The English Department's goal is to help students explore their potential in all areas of communication.

- To understand the English language through the study of vocabulary, grammar, and syntax as well as through writing and critical reading.
- To develop a capacity to communicate ideas fluidly and logically, in both oral and written composition.
- To listen actively and think critically.
- To apply critical reading skills in the interpretation of literature.
- To utilize textual experiences to understand the individual, society, and culture.
- To develop facility in the use of library and technology resources.
- To create imaginative poetry and prose.
- To use visual materials to enhance the reading experience and create an active community of learning.
- To write for a variety of purposes that are academic as well as practical.
- To provide modified instruction for non-native speakers of English.

### **Courses**

English I, II, III, IV  
English Honors I, II, III, IV  
Advanced Placement English

### **Strengths**

1. Students engage in writing for a variety of purposes, including personal experience (narrative and expository), persuasive, research, informative, and imaginative.
2. Uses the international diversity of the student population as a resource for the discovery and recognition of universal themes in literature.
3. Accelerates the learning process through cooperative learning in face-to-face pairs and small groups.

### **Recommendations**

1. Continue to expand literature and research resources in the Media Center by considering the purchase of Questia online research tools.
2. Promote continued use of technology in the English Curriculum.
3. Continue to evaluate and modify the English curriculum to better fit the students' needs.
4. Organize Interdisciplinary units with other subject areas.
5. Continue to review the ESOL schedule.