

ENGLISH

Course Title	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Required Courses:					
English 8 or Advanced English 8 or Co-Taught 8	X				
8 th Grade Seminar	X				
English 9 or Honors English 9 or Co-Taught 9		X			
Speech 9		X			
English 10 or Honors English 10			X		
English 11 or Honors American Literature				X	
English 12 or Advanced Composition or A.P. Literature & Comp.					X
Elective Courses:					
English as a Second Language	X	X	X	X	X
Theater I	X	X	X	X	
Theater II		X	X	X	X
Theater III & Film Production		X	X	X	X
Stagecraft		X	X	X	X
Creative Writing			X	X	X
Digital News Production			X	X	X
Yearbook			X	X	X



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GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

1. Five (5) credits or ten (10) semesters of English are required in grades 8 - 12.
2. Each student is to register for one course of English each semester.
3. One quarter credit of speech is required in grade 9.
4. One credit (2 semesters) of Art is required for graduation. The following elective courses under English fulfill that Art requirement: Theater I, Theater II, Theater III & Film Production, Stagecraft, and Creative Writing.

English 8

Course#: A-S1 (0080) B-S2 (0081) – Full Year Required Course

Grade Levels: 8

Prerequisites: None

Course Description: English 8 covers a broad study of reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. Literature will include short stories, novels, nonfiction, and poetry. Other emphases include grammar, paragraph, and essay writing. Preparation for the 8th grade MCA Reading Test is a part of this course.

Instructional Methods and Assessments: Lectures, discussions, and assigned readings are the primary methods of instruction in this course. Students will be assessed by means of homework assignments, quizzes, tests, essays, and creative projects.

Basis for Student Success: Students should be prepared to work in an organized and independent manner. Students are expected to keep up with daily reading and homework assignments. 8th Grade English is an opportunity for students to develop time management and organizational skills that will be necessary throughout high school and beyond.

Co-Taught English 8

Course#: A-S1 (0078) B-S2 (0079) – Full Year Required Course

Grade Levels: 8

Prerequisites: Enrollment in the class is based on prior standardized test scores and/or teacher recommendation.

Course Description: Co-taught English 8 covers a broad study of reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. Literature may include short stories, novels, nonfiction, poetry, and drama. Other emphases include grammar, reading fluency, vocabulary, and writing. The co-taught format provides students the chance to have additional support for their areas of growth while



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also being given a challenge and the space to find success and engagement in a personalized curriculum and enriched learning environment.

Instructional Methods and Assessments: Lectures, discussions, group and choice readings are the primary methods of instruction in this course. Students will be assessed by means of daily assignments, quizzes, tests, essays, and creative projects. There will be structured and supported class time for all assignments. This course will provide students with confidence and excitement about reading and writing as well as focusing on helping students achieve grade-level standards.

Basis for Student Success: Students should be prepared to work in an organized and independent as well as collaborative manner. Co-taught 8th Grade English is an opportunity for students to develop time management and organizational skills that will be necessary throughout high school and beyond.

Advanced English 8

Course#: A-S1 (0084) B-S2 (0085) – Full Year Required Course

Grade Levels: 8

Prerequisites: Advanced LA 7 or Teacher recommendation and a summer reading assignment.

NOTE: Advanced English 8 & Advanced Global Studies will be interdisciplinary courses. Students should enroll in both.

Course Description: Advanced English 8 is a rigorous study of reading, writing, speaking, listening, and discussion skills. Literature will include short stories, novels, nonfiction, and poetry. There is an emphasis on understanding literature on an analytical level and developing higher-order thinking skills. Students can expect to be challenged in writing, with emphasis on the five-paragraph essay, literary analysis, and creative writing. Other areas include grammar, vocabulary, independent reading, research, and poetry.

Instructional Methods and Assessments: Class discussion and collaborative work are the primary methods of instruction in this class. Students will be assessed through quizzes, tests, journals, discussions, essays, creative writing, oral presentations, and projects.

Basis for Student Success: Students should be eager to accept the challenge of reading and discussing assignments of 20-30 pages per night and responding to literature through writing with the use of higher-order thinking skills. Writing skills should include competent grammar, vocabulary, sentence structure, and paragraph construction with a basic knowledge of essay writing. Successful students strive for academic challenge and depth.

8th Grade Seminar

Course#: 0082 - Quarter Required Course (Combined with Health 8 for semester)

Grade Level: 8



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Prerequisites: None

Course Description: The 8th Grade Seminar is a class designed to assist 8th grade students with high school transition and prepare them for academic success. Students will learn techniques that will prepare them to be independent learners, develop efficiency, improve academic performance, be proactive, learn to self-advocate, make good decisions, and think critically. This class will focus on skills in the areas of academics, organization, technology integration, and the development of an individual management system. ***Note: Students will take this course during the same semester as Health 8 in the alternating quarter.***

Instructional Methods & Assessments: Students will receive daily instruction in the areas of academic skill development (studying for and taking tests, effective textbook reading and note taking), and organizational skill development. Students will be assessed on the implementation of the above-mentioned skills, weekly vocabulary activities and assessments, and weekly journal entries related to class discussion topics. The coursework for this class is self-paced.

Basis for Student Success: Students will be expected to complete course assignments, participate in daily discussion, come to class prepared, and develop an individual management system.

English 9

Course#: A-S1 (0090) B-S2 (0091) – Full Year Required Course

Grade Levels: 9

Prerequisites: English 8 or Adv. English 8

Course Description: This course is a comprehensive study of the English language and focuses on both written and oral communications. Students are expected to write compositions for a variety of purposes. The literature selected includes short stories, novels, nonfiction, poetry, and drama. Form and content are studied in each genre. Students will also work on developing reading strategies and analysis skills for both nonfiction and fiction texts.

Instructional Methods and Assessments: Class discussion and collaborative work are the primary methods of instruction in this class. Students will be assessed by means of quizzes, tests, journals, discussion, essays, creative writing, oral presentations, and projects. The use of technology will be incorporated into this course.

Basis for Student Success: Students should expect to read 20 pages per day, actively participate in discussions, and hand in assignments on time. We encourage students to review and study materials before class discussions and tests.

Co-Taught English 9

Course#: A-S1 (0088) B-S2 (0089) – Full Year Required Course

Grade Levels: 9



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Prerequisites: Enrollment in the class is based on prior standardized test scores and/or teacher recommendation.

Course Description: Co-taught English 9 covers a broad study of reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. Literature may include short stories, novels, nonfiction, poetry, and drama. Other emphases include reading fluency, vocabulary, and writing. The co-taught format provides students the opportunity to receive additional support in a space where they can feel engaged and find success.

Instructional Methods and Assessments: Lectures, discussions, group, and choice readings are the primary methods of instruction in this course. Students will be assessed by means of daily assignments, quizzes, tests, essays, and creative projects. There will be structured and supported class time for all assignments. This course aims to help students re-discover excitement for reading while also helping them achieve grade-level reading success by strengthening their reading and writing skills.

Basis for Student Success: Students should be prepared to work both independently and collaboratively. Co-taught English 9 is an opportunity for students to develop time management and organizational skills that will be necessary throughout high school and beyond.

Honors English 9

Course#: A-S1 (0094) B-S2 (0095) – Full Year Required Course

Grade Levels: 9

Prerequisites: English 8 or Advanced English 8; Teacher recommendation and a summer reading assignment.

Course Description: Honors English 9 is a rigorous study of reading, writing, speaking, grammar, listening, and discussion skills. Literature will include short stories, novels, nonfiction, and drama, with an emphasis on understanding literature on an analytical level and developing higher order thinking skills. Students can expect to be challenged in writing, with emphasis on mastery of the five-paragraph essay, research, literary analysis essays, and creative writing pieces. Students will also work on developing reading strategies and analysis skills for both nonfiction and fiction texts.

Instructional Methods and Assessments: Class discussion and collaborative work are the primary methods of instruction in this class. Students will be assessed by means of quizzes, tests, journals, discussion participation, essays, creative writing, oral presentations, and projects. Students will study grammar and non-fiction texts in a self-paced environment.

Basis for Student Success: Students should be eager to accept the challenge of reading and discussing assignments of 25 pages per day and responding to literature through writing with the use of higher order thinking skills. Writing skills should include competent grammar, vocabulary, sentence structure, paragraph, and essay construction. Successful students strive for academic challenge and depth.



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Speech 9

Course#: 0092 – Quarter Required Course (combined with Health 9 for semester)

Grade Levels: 9

Prerequisites: None

Course Description: This course is an introduction to public speaking. Students will learn how to organize and deliver speeches for a variety of purposes: informational, persuasive, and entertainment. The purpose of this course is to improve students' oratory skills and their comfort level speaking in front of an audience. All students are required to take this course during the 9th Grade year. **Note: Students will take this course during the same semester as Health 9 in the alternating quarter.**

Instructional Methods and Assessments: Lecture, discussion, and demonstrations are the primary methods for presenting course material. Speeches will be written and prepared in a self-paced environment. Students will be assessed primarily through oral presentations.

Basis for Student Success: Students must be motivated to develop and improve their oral communication skills. Students must complete all the preparation steps before presenting the formal speeches. Students are encouraged to practice on their own and with peers to improve their speaking skills prior to assessment.

English 10

Course#: A-S1 (0100) B-S2 (0101) – Full Year Required Course

Grade Levels: 10

Prerequisites: English 9 or Honors English 9

Course Description: Students read literature emphasizing the theme of the individual in society. The study of novels, nonfiction, plays, poetry, mythology, and short stories builds skills of literary analysis and interpretation. Weekly root words and grammar exercises enhance students' continued development of written communication skills. Student writing may include journals, as well as expository, persuasive, analytical, descriptive, and humorous writing.

Instructional Methods and Assessments: Methods include a combination of lectures, large and small group discussions, and individual assignments. Students and teacher will use technology to research and share information with the class. Assessment is based on participation in class activities, quizzes and tests on readings, root words tests, essays, and presentations.

Basis for Student Success: Students should expect to read 15 pages per day, actively participate in discussions, and hand in assignments on time. We encourage students to review and study materials before tests.



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Honors English 10

Course#: A-S1 (0104) B-S2 (0105) - Full Year Required Course

Grade Levels: 10

Prerequisites: English 9 or Honors English 9; Teacher recommendation and a summer reading assignment.

Course Description: Students read literature emphasizing the theme of heroes and villains. The study of novels, nonfiction, plays, poetry, mythology, and short stories builds skills of literary analysis, interpretation, and higher-level critical thinking. Vocabulary, root words, and grammar exercises emphasize usage and sentence skills. Student writing includes journals, as well as expository, persuasive, and analytical essays. Emphasis is placed on self-evaluation and revision of student work.

Instructional Methods and Assessments: Methods include a combination of lectures, large and small group discussions, and individual and collaborative group assignments. Assessment is based on participation in class activities, quizzes and tests on readings, vocabulary and root words tests, essays, and presentations.

Basis for Student Success: Students will need to read 25 pages per day and actively participate in discussions. We encourage students to review and study materials before tests. Competent sentence and paragraph construction as well as articulate essay writing are expected of students. Successful students accept academic challenges and strive for depth.

English 11

Course#: A-S1 (0112) B-S2 (0113) - Full Year Required Course

Grade Level: 11

Prerequisites: English 10 or Honors English 10

Course Description: English 11 provides a number of reading experiences with the emphasis on analysis. The novels, plays, and short stories selected will have contemporary themes and content relating to events in the modern world. Students will be expected to complete two major papers of literature analysis, required projects, and daily reading assignments. This course will also incorporate smaller writing assignments that focus on writing for the Twenty-First Century by enhancing practical and technical writing skills as well as literature based. Students will work on vocabulary development, review grammar and usage, and prepare for standardized tests such as the ACT.

Instructional Methods and Assessments: Lectures and discussion based on assigned readings are the primary instructional methods. Students will be assessed by means of homework, quizzes, unit tests, essays, oral presentations, and written projects.

Basis for Student Success: Students will be expected to keep up with daily reading and homework assignments. It is also expected that students take responsibility for managing time



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and completing long-range assignments. Students will be expected to word-process formal essays using MLA format.

Honors American Literature

Course#: A-S1 (0116) B-S2 (0117) – Full Year Required Course

Grade Levels: 11

Prerequisites: English 10 or Honors English 10, Teacher recommendation and a summer reading assignment.

Course Description: Honors American Literature emphasizes the use of higher-level critical reading and writing skills to interpret and write about important American works. Students in this class will be introduced to American authors such as F. Scott Fitzgerald, Arthur Miller, Louise Erdrich, Tim O'Brien, Octavia Butler, James McBride, Lorraine Hansberry, and Emily Dickinson. This course enhances student understanding with additional readings and more demanding assignments. Generally, students should expect to read two novels or plays and write one to two major papers during each quarter. These papers will focus on developing the skills and writing voice needed for post-high school courses. Students will also work on language development, review grammar and usage skills, and prepare for standardized tests such as the ACT.

Instructional Methods and Assessments: Lectures, discussions, and projects based on assigned readings are the primary instructional methods. Students will be assessed by means of quizzes, tests, essays, oral presentations, and written projects.

Basis for Student Success: Students will be expected to keep up with daily reading and homework assignments. Students are also expected to take responsibility for managing time and completing long-range assignments. Students will be expected to write using proper MLA format.

English 12

Course#: A-S1 (0121) B-S2 (0122) – Full Year Required Course

Grade Levels: 12

Prerequisites: English 11 or Honors American Literature

Course Description: English 12 A and B takes a classical thematic approach to literature by focusing on similarities and differences, patterns and relationships in various kinds of literature and writing, drawing conclusions, and using textual evidence in composition writing. Emphasis is placed on post-secondary preparation in reading complex texts and composition. Major reading focus is on world literature from different time periods. One major oral presentation is required per quarter, several in class papers, one major paper per quarter, a sixteen to twenty-one page MLA research paper, and weekly vocabulary enrichment. Each quarter



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students are required to attend and evaluate a cultural event. All seniors are also required to complete a summer reading assignment.

Instructional Methods and Assessments: Lectures, discussion, collaborative groups, assigned readings, and various compositions will be used to teach this course. Students will be assessed by means of homework, in class work, formative and summative assessments, essays, oral presentations, and group projects.

Basis for Student Success: Students taking English 12 A and B will be required to stay current with homework, required readings, projects, and compositions. Students are given clear dates and expectations for completion of these items.

Advanced Composition

Course#: A-S1 (0123), B-S1 (0124) – Full Year Required Course

Grade Levels: 12

Prerequisites: English 11 or Honors American Literature 11 summer reading assignment

Course Description: This course emphasizes the use of higher level critical reading and writing skills to interpret and write about important world literature. This class is for post secondary students who need more experience analyzing complex literature and writing analytical compositions. Considerable time is spent studying and applying elements of literature and composition and applying MLA style. Readings consist of poetry, plays, short stories, and several major novels each quarter. Students will write several in class essays, two page papers, a five-page paper, and a 7 to 10 page research paper throughout the course. All students are required to complete summer reading.

Instructional Methods and Assessments: Lectures, small, and large group discussion are the primary instructional methods. Students will be assessed by means of homework, quizzes, essay exams, compositions, and both individual and group oral presentations.

Basis for Student Success: Students will be required to keep up with daily homework, assigned readings, composition deadlines, and weekly vocabulary enrichment. Students are given clear deadlines and expectations for completion of required items.

AP English Literature and Composition

Course#: A-S1 (0125) B-S2 (0126) – Full Year Required Class

Grade Levels: 12

Prerequisites: Teacher recommendation and a summer reading assignment.

Course Description: The Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition course trains students to become skilled college-level readers and writers; it also offers students the opportunity to earn college credit. The reading selections explore complex themes found within drama, fiction, and poetry and will introduce students to high-level literary analysis skills.



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Students will write several academic essays in several modes; these essays will develop the student's voice, style, and organizational skills. These writing assignments will also prepare students for the rigors of college-level reading and writing. Students can expect to read an average of 30-35 pages a night and write several multi-page essays. All students are required to complete summer reading and writing.

Instructional Methods and Assessments: Lectures, discussions, assigned readings, group work, and essays will be used to teach this course. Students will be assessed through homework, discussion, presentations, quizzes, exams, and compositions.

Basis for Student Success: Students must adhere to deadlines for all homework, projects, compositions, discussion points, and presentations. The teacher provides the students with clear dates/expectations for all required coursework.

Theater I

Course#: 0129 – Semester Elective

Grade Levels: 8 - 11

Prerequisites: None

Course Description: In this class, the students will be introduced to the components of acting and theater arts. The exercises designed for this course take the students from the simplest of pantomime activities through the more complex work of role-playing and improvisation. The class concludes with the production and performance of a one-act play. This is a great introductory class for a student who wants to learn more about the art of performance.

Instructional Methods and Assessments: Instructional methods include in-class readings, discussion, individual, partner, small and large group exercises, hands-on activities, and independent work. Students are graded on participation, preparation, and performance. Students may also have the opportunity to take a field trip to a local theater.

Basis for Student Success: No prior theater experience is needed; however, students must be willing to perform in front of a group. Exercises and expectations demand concentration, focus, commitment, and the ability to work cooperatively in group settings. Course requirements include active participation in daily class activities, completion of and commitment to out-of-class assignments.

Theater II

Course#: 0130 – Semester Elective

Grade Levels: 9 - 12

Prerequisites: Theater I, Adv. Theater (in 2020-21), or Teacher Approval

Course Description: This course will build upon the fundamentals of theater concepts introduced in Theater I. Students will develop skills in the areas of voice, movement,



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improvisation, and character development. Students will study and perform original and scripted texts and will perform a one act play at the end of the semester. Students must have a desire and willingness to perform for an audience. Students will also learn about the different elements of producing a play, including set design, costuming, and makeup.

Instructional Methods and Assessments: Instructional methods include lectures, in-class readings, discussion, individual, partner, small and large group exercises, hands-on activities, and independent work. Students are graded on participation, preparation, and performance.

Basis for Student Success: The class is designed for students with an interest in performing. Mature students who are able to work well independently and with groups and who manage their time and meet deadlines will be most successful in this class.

Theater III and Film Production

Course#: 0131 – Semester Elective

Grade Levels: 9 - 12

Prerequisites: Theater I and Theater II or Adv. Theater (in 2020-21) or Teacher Approval

Course Description: This course is designed for those students who wish to work in-depth on characterization using monologue, scene, improvisation, film, and other forms of dramatic performance. Students will develop the independence and confidence essential in creating a characterization both through class/workshop-style activities and public performances.

Additionally, students will have the opportunity to study techniques involved in film production.

Instructional Methods and Assessments: Instructional methods include lectures, in-class readings, discussion, individual, partner, small and large group exercises, hands-on activities, and independent work. Students are graded on participation, preparation, and performance.

Basis for Student Success: The class is designed for students with a strong interest in performing. Mature students who are able to work well independently and with groups and who manage their time and meet deadlines will be most successful in this class.

Stagecraft

Course#: 0127 – Semester Elective

Grade Levels: 9 - 12

Prerequisites: None

Course Description: This course trains the student in all areas of theater practice except acting. Students learn the skills needed to construct and paint scenery, hang and focus lighting instruments, and implement a sound system. Students may aid in the creation of props and costumes. Practical experience is gained in the construction of sets and stage materials for MWHS plays and musicals. This course can be taken more than once.



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Instructional Methods and Assessments: Instructional methods will include hands-on training in elements of stage production. Students will receive training from both the instructor and community experts. Students will be assessed on their participation and contributions to group projects.

Basis for Student Success: The class is designed for students with an interest in the backstage elements of theater production. No prior experience is needed, but students should be able to work independently, collaborate effectively with others, and behave responsibly in a workshop setting.

Creative Writing

Course#: 0114 – Semester Elective

Grade Levels: 10 - 12

Prerequisites: None

Course Description: This class is designed for students who have an interest in creating original writing. The purpose of this course is to develop students' skills in both writing and creative thinking, and to cultivate an appreciation for language. Students will have the opportunity to write a wide range of pieces that may include poetry, dialogues, plays, short stories, screenplays, memoirs, and songs. In addition, students will develop skills in description, characterization, mood, and tone through various writing exercises. The course will culminate in the production of a portfolio of original pieces, which will be a reflection of the student's growth as a writer.

Instructional Methods and Assessments: The workshop setting of this class creates an atmosphere conducive to brainstorming, sharing, and feedback amongst participants. Students will be expected to complete short readings on the craft of writing as part of their instruction. Instruction will be delivered through large and small group discussion, and individual practice and conferences. Daily self- and peer-assessments are keys to learning in this class, while rubrics are used to assess more formal writing assignments.

Basis for Student Success: Students should come with open minds and a passion for creating new writing. A willingness to share one's work and ideas, to critique, and to be critiqued are also required for success in this course.

Digital News Production

Course#: A-S1 (0132) B-S2 (0133) – Semester or Full Year Elective

Grade Levels: 10-12

Prerequisites: Teacher Approval- Please complete [the course application](#)

Course Description: TV and Digital News Production is a class designed for students in grades 10-12. The course is an opportunity to engage in digital media production. Students will



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produce a school show that will highlight MWHS students, staff, and programs. Students will also be encouraged to work on digital projects and stories that showcase students' interests. Students will work in collaborative teams to gain skills in the areas of video production and journalism. Students will also learn about the foundations of journalism and the art of producing digital news.

Instructional Methods and Assessments: Students will receive direct instruction to support the tools, strategies, and skills required to create a quality online digital news show. Students will be assessed on skills related to on-air performance, technical production, problem-solving, story development, writing, editing, and video production through hands-on, project-based assessments.

Basis for Student Success: Students should be prepared to work in a collaborative, project-based environment and embrace their role as a “storyteller” at MWHS. Content will be generated regularly, so the ability to meet deadlines is critical. The pace will naturally create a learning environment that will be both fun, and professional, and will require skills of creation, collaboration, critical thinking/problem-solving, and communication. Students wishing to take this course must complete the application linked above.

Yearbook

Course#: A-S1 (0134), B-S2 (0135) – Semester or Full Year Elective

Grade Levels: 10 - 12

Prerequisites: Teacher Approval- Please complete [the course application](#)

Course Description: Yearbook is a challenging course in which students have the unique opportunity to write a book, create content, prepare a publication for printing, run a business, and record history. The course is designed to provide students the opportunity to work with technology, strengthen their analytical and problem-solving skills, improve their communication skills, and manage tremendous responsibility. Students will use Jostens' software for designing and producing the yearbook. Yearbook students practice the artistic fundamentals of multimedia design, journalistic writing, photojournalism, graphic design, and budget management. Students will also develop their abilities to work as a team as they produce the yearbook.

Instructional Methods and Assessments: Instructional methods include: hands-on instruction in the use of digital cameras and photo editing software, small and large group evaluation of projects, self-evaluation of projects, and analysis of current print production methods. Assessments include daily work, tests, event coverage, and projects.

Basis for Student Success: Students should have basic grammar and technology skills, the time and commitment to attend out-of-school events for photo opportunities, the ability to complete projects promptly, and the self-discipline to complete assignments during the class on the computer without constant supervision. Students wishing to take this course must complete the application linked above.

