

8th Grade English at MWHS

Advanced English 8	English 8	English 8 Foundations
Fulfills requirement for English course. Designed to meet the needs of students who have a strong interest or aptitude for reading and writing	Fulfills requirement for English course	Fulfills requirement for English course; designed to support students struggling in all areas of English Language Arts (reading, writing, speaking, and listening)
Study of short stories, novels, nonfiction, grammar, paragraph, and essay writing. Emphasis on analysis	Study of short stories, novels, nonfiction, grammar, paragraph, and essay writing	Study of short stories, novels, nonfiction, grammar, paragraph, and essay writing
Daily homework expected, including 20-40 pages per night during class novel study	Daily homework expected, including 10-15 pages per night during a novel study	NO homework - Assignments completed in class with teacher and paraprofessional support.
Students expected to read independently 2 hours a week and complete 25 books or more	Quarterly independent reading book and project required	Novel study includes supported reading strategies such as read alouds, small group work, partner reading, and audiobooks
One teacher. Interdisciplinary collaboration with Advanced Global Studies	One teacher	Two teachers available for help and support
Builds on skills to prepare students for the Honors English and AP courses at MWHS and post-secondary experiences. Includes personalized and self-paced units that help students build organization and time management skills	Builds on basic skills to prepare students for their high school career and beyond Includes personalized and self-paced units that help students build organization and time management skills	The same skills and standards are taught to prepare students for their high school career and beyond but may include: a more skill-appropriate pace, additional supports and small group pairings for teaching when needed, assessment of skill gaps and curriculum designed to target those gaps
Requirements*: Teacher Recommendation Enrollment in Advanced Global Studies Summer Reading *Recommended Success in Adv. LA 7 (A/B) MCA or FAST Exceeds Standard Scores	Requirements for registration: none	Requirements for registration: Teacher and/or case manager recommendation (if applicable) 5th Grade MCA's: 540 and below (Partially or Does Not Meet) 6th Grade MCA's: 640 and below (Partially or Does Not Meet) FAST Range: 505-534 (Some & High Risk) <i>**These scores are used as a first indicator, but each student will be considered based on individual needs and circumstances.</i>

Frequently Asked Questions

Which class should my student enroll in?

Your student should sign up for the class or classes that best fit their needs. Advanced English 8 is for students above grade level. English 8 is for students at or near grade level in English Language Arts (including reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills). English Foundations 8 is for students below grade level in English Language Arts. [Here is more information about English 8 Foundations.](#)

What if my student is receiving Special Education services?

Students may enroll in either Regular 8th Grade English or 8th Grade English Foundations and may receive additional skills support in a guided study setting. Please refer to your student's case manager for further recommendations.

My student is currently in an SRA Corrective Reading program. Will they continue to do that?

Students receiving Special Education services will be tested to determine their need for the program and may be enrolled in a small group English class if needed. SRA Corrective Reading is not part of the English class curriculum for either Regular or Foundations.

Do students who enroll in Advanced English 8 also enroll in Advanced Global Studies?

Yes. Students must enroll in both Advanced English 8 and Advanced Global Studies. These courses are designed to work in parallel with each other and dual enrollment allows for interdisciplinary study.

Who can I contact if I have more questions?

GMS or MWHS Guidance Counselors will be able to answer questions about scheduling and course content. For all other questions specific to the courses, contact:

Advanced English 8: Kristin Wallace wallacek@westonka.k12.mn.us

English 8: Kristin Wallace or Joe Lawrence lawrencem@westonka.k12.mn.us

English 8 Foundations: Emily Morrow morrowe@westonka.k12.mn.us or Alyson Wagley wagleya@westonka.k12.mn.us