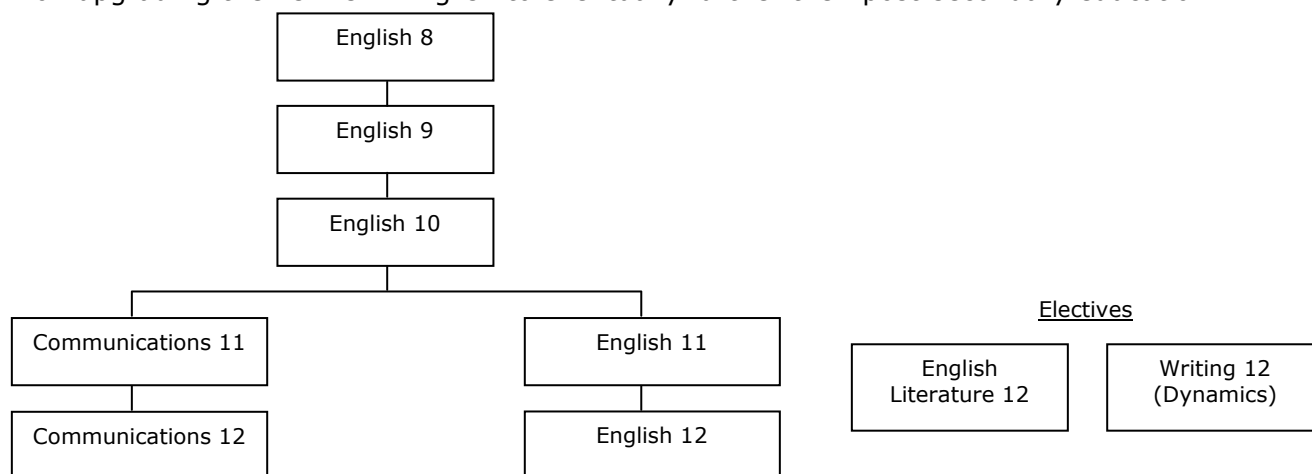


ENGLISH

The aim of all levels of English Language Arts is to provide students with opportunities for personal and intellectual growth through speaking, listening, reading, viewing, writing, and representing to make meaning of the world and to prepare them to participate effectively in all aspects of society. With the challenges facing us as we enter the 21st century, the ability to communicate effectively and to function in a rapidly changing society becomes even more critical. Through the variety of opportunities provided in English Language Arts, these skills are practiced and developed through an examination of relevant issues, such as responsibility, the power of belief, personal discovery, and our place in society.

Senior English Language Arts classes are intended to help students become fully skilled language users, capable of comprehending and responding to the multiple forms and functions of language that surround them. The language arts options for grades 11 and 12 reflect the different language skills senior students choose to focus on as part of their career and personal planning. Both streams count as equal credit for high school graduation. English Language Arts 11 and 12 focuses on the expressive and functional purposes of language and its uses in a variety of contexts. English Language Arts 11 and 12 are challenging, theoretical treatments of English which prepare students to take English courses at the post-secondary level. Communications 11 and 12 focuses on the essential language skills students need to function in daily life and the workplace. Communications 11 and 12 are courses for students who wish a more practical, less theoretical English. A student who completes Communications 12 does not close the door on post-secondary options. It is true however, that many universities will not accept applications from students who do not have credit for English Language Arts 12. That being said, it is possible for a student to be accepted in many non-academic community colleges' or technical schools' programs if they have credit in Communications 12. A student who attends community college could then work on upgrading their skills in English to eventually further their post-secondary education.



Related Focus Areas: Fine Arts, Design and Media

COURSES

ENGLISH - English 9 (EN9)

In English 9, students broaden their skills in reading and composition with specific practice in vocabulary building and writing narrative, descriptive, and expository paragraphs. They continue the study of the novel and short story concepts learned in Grade 8, looking particularly at character, conflict, and theme. Reading and basic analysis of non-fiction prose is introduced. Students also continue their exploration of poetry: its forms, content and terminology. Formal and informal essay writing is introduced. Topics studied may include personal responsibility, science-fiction and fantasy, Shakespeare and mystery.

ENGLISH - English 10 (EN10)

(Provincial Exam - Mandatory)

In English 10, topics such as the nature of prejudice, the consequences of fear and ignorance, the inhumane behaviour of human beings in certain circumstances, and the effect of media on attitudes are reflected within the course content. Reading will cover the novel, short story, non-fiction, biography, and poetry. Students will continue to practice writing with particular emphasis on exposition including articles, letters, biographical sketches, and personal anecdotes. In addition, students are encouraged to develop visual representation of their ideas. Formal and informal essay writing is further practiced, with specific training in the formulation of a thesis and the selection and organization of supporting evidence. Students in this course must write the mandatory provincial exam, worth 20% of their final grade.

ENGLISH

ENGLISH - English 11 (EN11)

Students in English 11 study literature ranging from novels and short stories, to drama and poetry, which examine individuals who face crucial decisions in crisis situations or who, through introspection, discover the forces which govern much human behaviour. Increasing emphasis will be placed on group cooperative learning activities, on writing formal essays and short stories, and on examining visual representations of ideas. Various topics of study may include horror, civilization or prejudice.

ENGLISH - Communications 11 (COM11) and Communications 12 (COM12)

(Provincial Exam - Mandatory)

In both these courses students will be using and appreciating a variety of communication forms in a variety of contexts. This can include informational communications (e.g. letters, summaries), mass media (e.g. newspapers, magazines) and literary communications (e.g. short stories, poetry). Communications courses focus on English as used in daily life and the workplace. A student who completes Communications 11 will go into Communications 12. Skills learned in Communications 11 are intended for further use in Communications 12. English 12 is not recommended after Communications 11. The Communications stream is accepted by most career and vocational programs. Students in Communications 12 must write the mandatory provincial exam, worth 40% of their final grade.

ENGLISH - English 12 (EN12)

(Provincial Exam - Mandatory)

The course is organized to focus on contemporary themes and issues relevant to young adults. These include the role of materialism, personal relationships, gender issues, and future trends in society. Students are encouraged to make selections of interest to them. To be successful, they will demonstrate competence in reading and writing analytical essays, in interpreting sophisticated fiction, in writing personal responses, and in presenting their ideas in a variety of forms. Students will practice recognizing bias, questioning the validity of ideas, and following logical argument. Students in this course must write the mandatory provincial exam, worth 40% of their final grade.

ENGLISH - Literature 12 (LIT12)

(Provincial Exam - Optional)

[open to students in Grades 11 and 12]

Literature 12 is a survey course of the great works of English Literature, from the Anglo-Saxon Beowulf, to the more Existential writers of the 20th century. In this course students analyze and debate "the big questions" of life and routinely touch on the more controversial topics of sex, politics, and religion. Students will learn to form and defend solid academic arguments in a persuasive way while they become comfortable with new literary genres and devices, poetic forms, and recurring themes within their historical context. As a panorama of English literary thought, Literature 12 provides a highly practical background for future studies in the Arts and Humanities. A B or better in English 11 is *strongly* recommended, as are solid writing skills. Students taking English Literature 12 may be concurrently enrolled in English 11 or 12. Literature 12 has an optional provincial exam.

ENGLISH - Writing 12 (WR12) (Dynamics)

"Language is the armory of the human mind, and at once contains the trophies of its past and the weapons of its future conquests." (Samuel Taylor Coleridge) This is a course for students to explore and experience the power of language. It is recommended for students excited by the creative, pragmatic and persuasive use of words. Dynamics offers development of language use in both written and oral communication, with emphasis on confidence building through effective organization and presentation of ideas. It is useful for students exploring a wide variety of career paths that require a high level of oral skill, including business, sales, tourism, teaching, journalism, etc. This course *MAY* be counted as an academic 12 in some post-secondary institutions, some depending on the program of study. Consult the calendar for each institution.