

SECTION VII: COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

These are courses offered by Harmony campuses across Texas. Campus course offerings may vary:

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

Course	Grade Level	Prerequisite	Credit
English I	9	None	1
Pre-AP English I	9	None	1
English I (ESOL-I)	9	None	1
English II	10	English I	1
Pre-AP English II	10	Pre-AP English I or English I	1
English II (ESOL-II)	10	ESOL-I	1
English III	11	English II	1
AP English Language & Composition	11	Pre-AP English II	1
English IV	12	English III	1
AP English Literature & Compositions	12	English III or AP English Language & Comp.	1
College Prep ELA	12	None	1
LOCAL COURSES			
<i>Non-credit, Locally Developed Courses</i>			
English I EOC Lab	9	None	1
English II EOC Lab	10	None	1
ELA SAT Lab I-II-II	10-12	None	1, 0.5
ELA TSI Lab I-II	11-12	None	1, 0.5
ESL Lab I-II	9-12	None	1, 0.5
ELECTIVES			
Journalism		Application required	1
Practical Writing Skills		Application required	1
Creative Writing		Application required	1

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT*Course Descriptions***English I****Offered in:** 9 **Credits:** 1 **Level:** *On level***Prerequisites:**

In English I, students begin developing college level skills in the use and interpretation of language to better understand themselves and their world. Students read and analyze texts from a variety of genres including cultural and historical fiction, informational texts, drama, poetry, persuasion, and literary non-fiction. Reading instruction centers not on mere comprehension, but focuses on building higher level thinking skills to evaluate the literary techniques of the author and interpret the themes of the work. Students learn literary forms and terms associated with selections being read and apply these in analysis. In addition to focusing on real-world writing skills, students write a variety of compositions including an imaginative story, an expository essay, a poem or script, a persuasive essay, and a literary response essay. Teachers model writing strategies that students apply in their work, centering on the development and mastery of focus and coherence, voice, depth of thought, and conventions. Additionally, they engage in research, presentations, speeches, and a thematic study. Students refine their listening skills to better participate in direct instruction, classroom discussion, and cooperative group activities.

Pre-AP English I**Offered in:** 9 **Credits:** 1 **Level:** *Pre AP***Prerequisites:**

In 9th grade, students may take Pre-AP English Language Arts. Pre-AP prepares students for high school AP courses in language and literature by further emphasizing students' skills in using and analyzing language. In addition to the goals of on level language arts courses, students read from more advanced texts and seek to offer more in-depth interpretations. Students compose more advanced analytical papers using a college-level rubric with appropriate formatting and documentation.

English I (ESOL-I)**Offered in:** 9 **Credits:** 1 **Level:** *On level***Prerequisites:**

The course description is the same as English I, but this course is specifically designed for English language learners at the beginning or intermediate level.

English II**Offered in:** 10 **Credits:** 1 **Level:** *On level***Prerequisites:** *English I*

In English II, students build upon the knowledge and skills they learned in English I, with an increase in text complexity and rigor. In this course, students are developing college level skills in the use and interpretation of language to better understand themselves and their world. Students read and analyze texts from a variety of genres including cultural and historical fiction, informational texts, drama, poetry, persuasion, and literary non-fiction. Reading instruction centers not on mere comprehension, but focuses on building higher level thinking skills to evaluate the literary techniques of the author and interpret the themes of the work. Students learn literary forms and terms associated with selections being read and apply these in analysis. In addition to focusing on real-world writing skills, students write a variety of compositions including an imaginative story, an expository essay, a poem or script, a persuasive essay, and a literary response essay. Teachers model writing strategies that students apply in their work, centering on the development and mastery of focus and coherence, voice, depth of thought, and conventions. Additionally, they engage in research, presentations, speeches, and a thematic study. Students refine their listening skills to better participate in direct instruction, classroom discussion, and cooperative group activities.

Pre-AP English II**Offered in:** 10 **Credits:** 1 **Level:** *Pre AP***Prerequisites:** *Pre-AP English I or English I*

In 10th grade, students may take Pre-AP English Language Arts. Pre-AP prepares students for high school AP courses in language and literature by further emphasizing students' skills in using and analyzing language. In addition to the goals of on level language arts courses, students read from more advanced texts and seek to offer more in-depth interpretations. Students compose more advanced analytical papers using a college-level rubric with appropriate formatting and documentation.

English II (ESOL-II)**Offered in:** 10 **Credits:** 1 **Level:** *On level***Prerequisites:** *ESOL-I*

The course description is the same as English II, but this course is specifically designed for English language learner at the beginning or intermediate level.

English III

Offered in: 11 **Credits:** 1 **Level:** On level

Prerequisites: English II

In English III, students build upon the knowledge and skills they learned in English II, with an increase in text complexity and rigor. In this course, students are developing college level skills in the use and interpretation of language to better understand themselves and their world. Students read and analyze texts from a variety of genres including cultural and historical fiction, informational texts, drama, poetry, persuasion, and literary non-fiction. Reading instruction centers not on mere comprehension, but focuses on building higher level thinking skills to evaluate the literary techniques of the author and interpret the themes of the work. Students learn literary forms and terms associated with selections being read and apply these in analysis. In addition to focusing on real-world writing skills, students write a variety of compositions including an imaginative story, an expository essay, a poem or script, a persuasive essay, and a literary response essay. Teachers model writing strategies that students apply in their work, centering on the development and mastery of focus and coherence, voice, depth of thought, and conventions. Additionally, they engage in research, presentations, speeches, and a thematic study. Students refine their listening skills to better participate in direct instruction, classroom discussion, and cooperative group activities.

** While taking English III/IV, students will simultaneously satisfy the speech credit required for graduation.*

AP English Language & Composition

Offered in: 11 **Credits:** 1 **Level:** AP/Dual

Prerequisites: Pre-AP English II

In 11th grade, students may take AP English Language and Composition. Teachers create a course audit approved by College Board for accreditation. As College Board states, “An AP course in English Language and Composition engages students in becoming skilled readers of prose written in a variety of rhetorical contexts, and in becoming skilled writers who compose for a variety of purposes. Both their writing and their reading should make students aware of the interactions among a writer’s purposes, audience expectations, and subjects, as well as the way genre conventions and the resources of language contribute to effectiveness in writing.”

English IV

Offered in: 12 **Credits:** 1 **Level:** On level

Prerequisites: English III

In English IV, students build upon the knowledge and skills they learned in English III, with an increase in text complexity and rigor. In this course, students are developing college level skills in the use and interpretation of language to better understand themselves and their world. Students read and analyze texts from a variety of genres including cultural and historical fiction, informational texts, drama, poetry, persuasion, and literary non-fiction. Reading instruction centers not on mere comprehension, but focuses on building higher level thinking skills to evaluate the literary techniques of the author and interpret the themes of the work. Students learn literary forms and terms associated with selections being read and apply these in analysis. In addition to focusing on real-world writing skills, students write a variety of compositions including an imaginative story, an expository essay, a poem or script, a persuasive essay, and a literary response essay. Teachers model writing strategies that students apply in their work, centering on the development and mastery of focus and coherence, voice, depth of thought, and conventions. Additionally, they engage in research, presentations, speeches, and a thematic study. Students refine their listening skills to better participate in direct instruction, classroom discussion, and cooperative group activities.

** While taking English III/IV, students will simultaneously satisfy the speech credit required for graduation.*

AP English Literature & Compositions

Offered in: 12 **Credits:** 1 **Level:** AP/Dual

Prerequisites: English III

In 12th grade, students may take AP English Literature and Composition. Teachers create a course audit approved by College Board for accreditation. As College Board states, “The AP English Literature and Composition course aligns to an introductory college-level literary analysis course. The course engages students in the close reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature to deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure. As they read, students consider a work’s structure, style, and themes, as well as its use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone. Writing assignments include expository, analytical, and argumentative essays that require students to analyze and interpret literary works.”

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT*Course Descriptions***English I EOC Lab****Offered in:** 9 **Credits:** **Level:** *On level***Prerequisites:**

In 9th grade, students will take a five-hour lab class to receive supplemental instruction and additional practice in reading comprehension of the various genres, grammar conventions, and writing. Teachers will use assessment data to provide targeted, standards-based intervention in the form of small group and whole group instruction, and students will continue to independently practice reading and writing skills with personalized, online learning platforms. Additionally, this class is a time for additional support and practice in independent reading and writing.

English II EOC Lab**Offered in:** 10 **Credits:** **Level:** *On level***Prerequisites:**

In 10th grade, students will take a five-hour lab class to receive supplemental instruction and additional practice in reading comprehension of the various genres, grammar conventions, and writing. Teachers will use assessment data to provide targeted, standards-based intervention in the form of small group and whole group instruction, and students will continue to independently practice reading and writing skills with access to personalized, online learning platforms. Additionally, this class is a time for additional support and practice in independent reading and writing.

ELA SAT Lab**Offered in:** 10 **Credits:** **Level:** *On level***Prerequisites:**

In 10th grade, dependent on their PSAT score, students will take a five hour lab class in order to receive extended instruction and additional practice in the knowledge and skills assessed by the SAT through A-List resources. Teachers will provide direct instruction using A-List's materials and lesson plans, and students will practice online until they demonstrate mastery of targeted standards and skills. In addition, teachers will use assessment data to provide targeted, standards- and skills-based extension in the form of small group and whole group instruction.

ESL Lab I-II**Offered in:** 9-12 **Credits:** **Level:** *On level***Prerequisites:**

In 9-12th grade, English language learners will take a five hour lab class in order to receive supplemental instruction and additional practice in academic English language through intensive reading and writing instruction.

ELA TSI Lab (I-II)**Offered in:** 11-12 **Credits:** **Level:** *On level***Prerequisites:**

In 11th or 12th grade, students will take a one-semester, five hour lab class in order to receive supplemental instruction and additional practice through the online platform My Foundations Lab in response to the Texas Success Initiative (TSI). According to College Board, "The TSI Assessment is a program designed to help [schools] determine if [students] are ready for college-level course work in the general areas of reading, writing and mathematics. This program also will help determine what type of course or intervention will best meet [students'] needs to help [them] become better prepared for college-level course work if [they] are not ready." The online program provides individual learning paths based on a diagnostic assessment, and students will practice online until they demonstrate mastery of their targeted standards. In addition, teachers will use assessment data to provide targeted, standards-based intervention in the form of small group and whole group instruction.

ELA SAT Prep (Semester)**Offered in:** 11 **Credits:** **Level:** *On level***Prerequisites:**

In 11th grade or 12th grade, students who have demonstrated college-readiness through the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) Assessment have the option of taking an SAT prep course in order to prepare them for the Reading, Writing and Language, and the optional SAT Essay on the exam. Over the course of one semester, students will take a five hour lab class in order to receive supplemental instruction and additional practice in the knowledge and skills assessed by the SAT through A-List's resources and online platform. Teachers will use assessment data to provide targeted, standards-based intervention in the form of small group and whole group instruction.

ELECTIVES

Optional Courses for Campuses to Offer*

* Campuses will not receive any curriculum documents from Central Office for these courses. Administrators must provide textbooks and resources based on TEA guidelines for these courses.

Practical Writing

Offered in: **Credits: 1** **Level: On level**

Prerequisites:

According to TEA’s 19 TAC Chapter 110 Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for English Language Arts and Reading, Subchapter B, Section §110.54, “this course emphasizes skill in the use of conventions and mechanics of written English, the appropriate and effective application of English grammar, the reading comprehension of informational text, and the effective use of vocabulary. Students are expected to understand the recursive nature of reading and writing. Evaluation of students’ own writing as well as the writing of others ensures that students completing this course are able to analyze and evaluate their writing.”

Creative Writing

Offered in: **Credits: 1** **Level: On level**

Prerequisites:

According to TEA’s 19 TAC Chapter 110 Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for English Language Arts and Reading, Subchapter B, Section §110.52, “this rigorous composition course asks high school students to demonstrate their skill in such forms of writing as fictional writing, short stories, poetry, and drama. All students are expected to demonstrate an understanding of the recursive nature of the writing process, effectively applying the conventions of usage and the mechanics of written English. The students’ evaluation of their own writing as well as the writing of others ensures that students completing this course are able to analyze and discuss published and unpublished pieces of writing, develop peer and self-assessments for effective writing, and set their own goals as writers.”

Journalism

Offered in: **Credits: 1** **Level: On level**

Prerequisites:

According to TEA’s 19 TAC Chapter 110 Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for English Language Arts and Reading.

