

The honors level courses for English I and World History provide highly-motivated students with a high-academic and rigorous experience. The curriculum will challenge students in critical reading and composition.

Prerequisites:

- Teacher Recommendation
- 8th grade final course grade (>90)

DEVELOPING SKILLS:

- Enhance analytical and critical reading/thinking
- Improve writing in descriptive, narrative, expository, and creative genres
- Expand vocabulary
- Augment skills for oral presentation, discussions, and debates
- Improve higher-order thinking
- Gain perspective on life, society, and self through reading and writing
- Open one's mind to the world of the past and the possibilities of the future



MUST-HAVE SKILLS FOR A SMOOTH FRESHMAN TRANSITION:

1. Strong Reading Comprehension

 Ability to understand and analyze complex texts, including literary works from various genres and historical periods.

2. Critical Thinking

• Skill in evaluating and interpreting literary themes, symbols, and ideas, as well as developing independent insights into the text.

3. Writing Proficiency

 Familiarity with essay writing, particularly structuring arguments, developing a clear thesis, and supporting claims with evidence from the text.

4. Close Reading Techniques

• Ability to analyze passages in depth, focusing on language, structure, tone, and literary devices.

5. Research Skills

 Competence in using secondary sources to support literary analysis, including understanding citations and incorporating academic sources into writing.

6. Time Management

• Preparedness for handling large volumes of reading and writing assignments, often on tight deadlines.

7. Oral Communication

 Confidence in discussing literature in class, participating in debates, and sharing interpretations in small groups and whole class discussions.

8. Editing and Revision

 Understanding of how to revise and improve writing through multiple drafts, incorporating feedback from peers and instructors.

9. High-Level of Interest

 A strong enthusiasm for subject area and a genuine curiosity about diverse literary works, authors, and historical contexts.
This includes a desire to explore various genres and themes, and a willingness to engage deeply with the subject matter.

10. Intrinsic Motivation for Independent Reading

 A genuine interest in exploring literature beyond assigned texts, driven by a personal curiosity and love for reading. This includes the ability to read independently, engage with challenging material, and pursue deeper understanding of texts without constant external prompting.