

**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT**  
Course Descriptions

**Introduction to Communication Arts**

*Prerequisites: Teacher Recommendation*

This course is to be taken by recommendation and a review of entrance scores, and will focus on preparation for high-school level Communications and English classes, as well as foreign language classes. Specific emphasis will be placed upon a review of grammar and mechanics skills, sentence and paragraph construction, and a basic introduction to the research paper.

**Communications I**

*Prerequisites: Gr. 9 status and Teacher Recommendation*

Communications I will focus on the growth of literary comprehension and enjoyment through the study of short-stories, non-fiction, poetry, drama, and novels. Writing will be a major component of the course, with frequent writing exercises and workshops, as well as review of basic grammar and mechanics skills.

**Communications II**

*Prerequisite: Comm. 1 & Gr. 10 status*

Communications II will focus on the continued growth of literary comprehension and enjoyment through the study of short stories and novels, non-fiction, poetry, drama, and novels. Writing will be a major component of the course, with frequent writing exercises and workshops.

**American Literature**

*Prerequisite: Gr. 11-12 status*

**Required**

This course focuses on a singularly American literature: how it developed and how that literature continues to reflect the growth of the United States. The literature discussed starts with the early recordings of native Americans and Puritan writers and continues through the beginning of the 21st century. Studies will include essays, poetry, short stories, plays, and novels. Reading, various writing methods, projects, critical thinking, and evaluations will be included.

**Literature and Research of the Arts**

*Prerequisite: Completion of—or current enrollment in—American Literature*

An upper level elective to be taken beyond the 4 required English credits. This course focuses on the literature of theater and great speeches and incorporates the writing and practice of theater and public speaking skills in the processing of such works. Students will read, write, and present works of classic theater and speech and then progress to writing their own works and presenting them.

**English Symposium \*DC\* (3 credits)**

*Lindenwood ENG15000*

*Prerequisite: Gr. 11-12 status*

This course is designed for juniors and seniors who would like a course that offers a more intensive, collegiate-styled look at five specific areas of English instruction. The focus areas are: nonfiction, modern poetry, dystopian fiction, historical/mystery fiction, and mythology. Each area of study is reading, presentation, and discussion oriented with a writing intensive requirement for each focus area. Summer reading is a requirement of this class.

**Experiences in Writing**

*Prerequisite: Completion of—or current enrollment in—American Literature*

An upper level elective, to be taken beyond the 4 required English credits, involving a variety of written expression experiences in both fiction and nonfiction genres. Topics could include short story writing, play-scene writing, advanced non-fiction essay, memoir, poetry and the like.

**AP English Literature \*DC\* (3 credits)**

*Lindenwood ENG20000*

*Prerequisite: Gr. 12 status, C or better in American Literature*

This course is taught using a certified College Board Advanced Placement Curriculum and carries a 5 point grade scale. The first half of the course is a chronological survey of the literature and culture of England from the Renaissance to 1800. The second half focuses on literature of the 1800's to the present day with an emphasis on novels by a variety of English authors. Literary analysis, both written and oral, will be required. Students will have significant out-of-class work including summer reading, reading during major vacation breaks, and further outside reading and papers in preparation for the challenge of the advanced placement test taken in May of each year. Students are required to take the AP English exam at their own expense. Students should expect a rigorous, college-level assignment load in the course.