

Woodson High School English Course Offerings 2023-2024

English 9 & 9 Honors: Students read and analyze a variety of literary and nonfiction texts, exploring the characteristics of different forms and the techniques authors use to achieve their intended purpose. Through narrative, expository, and persuasive writings, students build on their understanding of writing as a process of pre-writing, drafting, revising, and publishing. In the research process, students find, evaluate, and select appropriate sources to access information to create a research product. They also develop communication skills through listening to and practicing oral presentations. At the honors level students will focus on more extensive analysis and more sophisticated writing. The honors level carries a +.5 GPA weight.

World Civilizations 1: This course contains the curriculum of both English 9 Honors and World History 1 Honors. The same skills taught in standalone honors courses are taught in World Civilizations and the pacing is the same as the stand alone honors courses. The honors level courses carry a +.5 GPA weight.

Which English 9 course is best for my Freshman?		
English 9	English 9 Honors	World Civ 1
Some full texts, some adapted texts	Read full texts of all texts	Two teachers, two core subjects, one gradebook
More reading and homework done in class	More analysis/evaluation done in class; readings and homework at home	Same skills are taught in standalone honors
Typical outside commitment 1-2 hours *Some students will need less time and others more as students do not always process information at the same pace	Typical outside commitment: 2-3 hours *Some students will need less time and others more as students do not always process information at the same pace	Same pacing as standalone honors
More scaffolded	More self-directed, independent	Same time commitment as honors, course is not harder than standalone honors courses, it is simply taught in a different environment
Moderately Paced	Faster Paced	Meets in the same room every day at the same time, an opportunity for students to have a kind of "home room"

English 10 & 10 Honors: This course approaches the study of English by reading a variety of World Literature. It includes intensive writing instruction including grammar, vocabulary development, with an emphasis on reasoning skills. It will build on the organizational skills, reading comprehension and analysis that students improved in their English 9 class. At the honors level students enrolled in this class study the forms of literature and rhetoric to prepare them to be successful in Honors or Advanced Placement classes. This course is the best choice for students who are self-directed, organized, and already possess above average to exemplary reading and writing skills. The honors level carries a +.5 GPA weight.

English 11 & 11 Honors: Continuing to prepare students for upper level English in high school and beyond, this course uses the chronological study of American Literature to reinforce reading comprehension. Through intensive writing instruction, students are taught to refine their style and voice and command of the language. At the honors level students deepen and intensify the study of American Literature in the core English 11 class. Reading and writing assignments will include all those at the standard level and additional assignments to hone student thinking. Students in

this course should be independent readers who are able to complete long-term assignments independently and write proficiently, with a strong understanding of grammar/syntax. Writing includes literary analysis. The honors level carries a +.5 GPA weight.

English 12 & 12 Honors: Students study a variety of literature and writing styles. During the first quarter, all seniors develop a personal narrative that may be used as a college application essay. The course focuses on refining the students’ fluency in written and spoken expression. This course prepares students for college-level analysis, writing, and research. At the honors level students will explore works by additional authors and complete projects and writings that increase higher-level independent thinking. The honors level carries a +.5 GPA weight.

English 11 AP: The purpose of this class is to prepare students to take the AP test in English Language and Composition for which college credit may be given if a qualifying score is achieved. While American literature will be included in the course, it will also focus on non-fiction works. Students study advanced composition and analysis of language at a level equivalent to that of a full year introductory college class. The writing skills focus on rhetorical analysis, persuasion, and use of resources within persuasion. The AP level carries a +1 GPA weight.

English 12 AP: The purpose of this class is to prepare students to take the AP test in English Literature and Composition for which college credit may be given if a qualifying score is achieved. Students study advanced composition and literary analysis at a level equivalent to that of a full-year introductory college class. The AP level carries a +1 GPA weight.

Key differences between general and honors levels courses:	
General Level	Honors Level
Read some full texts and some adapted versions	Read full texts of all texts
More work (readings, homework) done in class	More analysis/evaluation done in class; readings and homework at home
Typical outside commitment: 1-2 hours *Some students will need less time and others more as students do not always process information at the same pace	Typical outside commitment: 2-3 hours *Some students will need less time and others more as students do not always process information at the same pace
More scaffolded	More self-directed, independent
Moderate pacing	Faster-paced
Honors courses are a great fit for students that love to read, are willing to be proactive with questions or concerns, are self-directed and independent, and are willing to engage with the content. All courses require student participation and class discussion.	

Woodson High School English Planned* Electives Offerings 2023-2024

*Offerings are dependent on enrollment and staffing, all students will be working with counselors to select a secondary elective choice should their first choice be unavailable.

Journalism:

Prerequisites-Instructor Approval

In Journalism 1 students learn the history and language of journalism; develop communication skills in writing, designing and editing for a variety of media; understand news and the process of publication; and become more critical readers and viewers of mass media. This course prepares students for continued study in journalism, photojournalism, and broadcast journalism. In Journalism 2 students learn and apply techniques of layout, design and desktop publishing. Students develop a more sophisticated level of journalistic writing and participate in the operation and production of the high school newspaper and/or student produced webpage. Students also learn skills in business and circulation management. This course requires some after school time for editors. In addition to enhancing their skills as reporters, students in Journalism 3 learn the role of editorial leadership, develop a personal sense of professionalism, understand the role of the newspaper in society, and become productive members of the newspaper and/or student produced website staff. Students also learn business and circulation management. This course requires some after school time. *This*

course requires approval by instructor. In Journalism 4 students learn marketable publications skills; develop individual writing, layout, and design styles; and may assume editorial leadership and responsibility for producing a high school newspaper and/or student produced website. Journalism 4 students will also take responsibility for being the chief spokespeople for the publication. Students also take responsibility for business and circulation management. This course requires some after school time. *This course requires approval by instructor.* Contact Mr. Springer, avspringer@fcps.edu, with questions.

Photojournalism:

Prerequisites-Instructor Approval

In Photojournalism 1, students learn the principles of interviewing, copywriting, photography, layout, and design. Students will use publishing software to create pages for the school's yearbook. This course requires some after school time. *This course requires an application and approval by instructor.* In Photojournalism 2, students develop their copywriting skills and advance their photography and design skills as they create pages for the school's yearbook. They may become section editors. This course requires some after school time. *This course requires an application and approval by instructor.* In Photojournalism 3, students refine their copywriting skills and advance their computer and photography skills, develop individual style, and may assume leadership roles as members of the yearbook staff's editorial board. This course requires some after school time. *This course requires an application and approval by instructor.* In Photojournalism 4, students continue to refine their copywriting skills and advance their computer and photography skills, develop individual style, and assume leadership roles as members of the yearbook staff's editorial board. This course requires some after school time. *This course requires an application and approval by instructor.* Contact Mrs. Vega, slvega@fcps.edu, with questions.

Film Study:

Prerequisites-None

This course involves the study of classic and award-winning films. Students critique both the artistic and technical merits of the films. They study the development of theme, plot, characterization, and setting in each production. They learn the vocabulary associated with film and use this vocabulary when discussing or writing about films. Students will produce short films each semester. *This course is one-half credit as a semester course and one credit if taken for a full year.* Contact Mr. Marvin, dmarvin@fcps.edu, with questions.

Support Courses:

Prerequisites-None

Literacy support classes are for students in need of direct and intensive reading and writing instruction. Students are typically enrolled based on recommendations from current teachers or as part of their IEP team discussion. Literacy Essentials is open to all students 9-12 reading 2 or more years below grade level. Basic objectives of this reading course are focused on closing the gap between the students' present level of performance and the level of performance needed to successfully access the general curriculum. Instruction focuses on increasing student's decoding, fluency and comprehension skills of fiction/nonfiction materials. Literacy Lab is for students in grades 10-12 and provides focused intervention (10-11) or remediation (12) of reading and writing skills as well as English content included in the English 9 and 10 Program of Studies that are necessary to pass the EOC English: Reading and/or Writing SOL tests, which students take in English 11.