

LANGUAGE ARTS ELECTIVES

READING FOR COLLEGE READINESS 1313.R000.Y

Grade Placement: 9

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite/Comments: None

Reading 1 is a one credit full year course which offers instruction in word decoding, vocabulary, fluency and comprehension strategies to ensure that students will begin reading with competence, confidence and understanding. Reading 30 minutes a night is recommended and rewarded with bonus points and students will also need to study for vocabulary and word parts tests on a weekly basis. It is the hope of the instructor that by using high interest, multicultural materials that are engaging to young adults, students will be motivated to become lifelong readers.

LITERARY GENRES: INTRO TO WOMEN'S STUDIES

1438.H200.Y

Grade Placement: 9-12

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: None

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the unique discipline of Women's Studies. Women's Studies originally began as a course meant to offer the perspectives of women - something most disciplines (from literature to history to the sciences) did not do. Over time, Women's Studies has evolved into a unique discipline of its own. Through an interdisciplinary study of literature, nonfiction, and visual mediums (including film and art), students will become familiar with key concepts, issues, and debates in feminism. This course requires critical reading and discussion of texts. All students are welcome in this course.

CREATIVE WRITING I

1435.H000.Y

Grade Placement: 11-12

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite/Comments: Eng II

Creative writing is a workshop/seminar style course that provides a student the opportunity to write in multiple genres and through different viewpoints in an effort to allow him to define himself as a writer. Students engage in writing exercises that hone skills that are non-genre specific, such as voice, specific detail, and point of view. Additionally, students will engage in drafting as well as an editing and revision process designed to produce an increasingly sophisticated product suitable for publishing during the Spring semester. Students will examine examples of literature in relevant and various genres as models and subjects for discussion and creation. Students will collect and present literary discoveries from their own reading and writing and are expected to participate in classroom readings. Students in Creative Writing should prepare for one to three hours of homework each week.

ANALYSIS OF VISUAL MEDIA

1440.R000.X

Grade Placement: 10-12

Credit: 0.5

Prerequisite/Comments: Eng II

Visual Media students analyze the historical development of film as art by studying the different genres of film. The course includes evaluation of subject matter, choice of media, content, purpose, and effect. There is a writing component that may include criticism as well as analysis of film. Visual Media students should prepare for one to three hours of homework per week.

LITERARY GENRES: THE ART OF STORYTELLING

Grade Placement: 10-12

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite/Comments: English I (ADVANCED recommended); weighted

Students in Literary Genres analyze common themes in a variety of literary genres. The course focuses on one specific genre at a time ranging from adventure to horror to expose students to a variety of study; the emphasis of the elective at Austin High is on "The Art of Storytelling." Students will become well versed on the characteristics of each genre through viewing a variety of films, reading short stories and novels, and writing creatively in the studied genre. Since this is a weighted elective, students should prepare for one to three hours of homework and outside reading each week.