



OVERVIEW

Evidence-based thinking along with critical thinking skills and collaborative discussions skills are embedded into the standards as tools and strategies to help students gain meaning from challenging texts and tasks.

Standards in high school build in complexity and are organized by 9-10 grade and 11-12 grade by the following strands:

- Reading Standards for Literature
- Reading Standards for Informational Text
- Writing Standards
- Speaking and Listening Standards
- Language Standards

The Reading for Literature Standards and Reading for Informational Standards may mirror one another with similar concepts covered, but individualized for the differences in each type of text.

STATE AND DISTRICT SUPPORT LINKS

[Arizona Department of Education](#)

[Arizona State Academic Standards](#)

[Peoria Unified School District](#)

[Family Resources](#)

[Curriculum & Instruction](#)

[School Year Calendar](#)

[ParentVue](#)

[Course Description Guide](#)

High School English Language Arts

As language arts students advance, they begin to master the standards in reading, writing, speaking and language. In addition, students demonstrate academic independence, build strong content knowledge, respond to the varying demands of audience, task, purpose, and discipline, comprehend different texts and learn to critique. The goal and purpose of the English Language Arts team is to ensure students become literate individuals that are ready for their post-secondary careers.

Our curriculum is aligned to the Arizona State Standards and the district's course guide. Arizona's English Language Arts Standards are created to develop understanding of language arts content across and within grade levels in the purpose of preparing students to be college and career ready.

As determined by the Arizona State Board of Education (R7-2-302) and the District Governing Board English language arts includes four high school classes: English I, English II, English III and English IV.



Core Course Offerings

ENGLISH I

This course focuses on literature from American History, Civil Rights, the writings of William Shakespeare, and Homer's *The Odyssey*. Writing instruction will include preparation for college level writing in multiple genres and grammar skills to increase writing capacity. Additional novel studies may be added to the course as time allows.



ENGLISH II

This course focuses on the writing of Edgar Allen Poe and other gothic novelists, delves into comprehension of various speeches and other classic literature, and analyzes the deeper work of William Shakespeare. Writing instruction will continue toward college level writing, building upon the skills taught in English I. Additional novel studies may be added to the course as time allows.

ENGLISH III

This course will center around American Literature from authors such as Mark Twain and Arthur Miller. Writing instruction will continue toward college level writing, building upon the skills taught in English II. Additional novel studies may be added to the course as time allows.

ENGLISH IV

This course hones in on British and World Literature including *Beowulf*, excerpts from *The Canterbury Tales*, *The Tragedy of Macbeth*, and excerpts from *Gulliver's Travels*. Writing instruction will continue toward college level writing, building upon the skills taught in English III. Additional novel studies may be added to the course as time allows.

RESOURCES

myPerspectives
Step Up to Writing
Just Words
Read180/System 44



Source: Arizona Department of Education | Academic Standards by Subject

Additional Core Course Offerings

		HONORS CREDIT OFFERED	DUAL ENROLLMENT OFFERED	ONLINE COURSE OFFERED
AP LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION	Literature-based, critical analysis of text and practice in "writing-on-demand" to improve the clarity and depth of thought. Parallels the university experience through discussion, written critical analysis, independent reading and research. Meets English III or IV requirement.	✓	✓	✓
AP LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION	Evaluate language as a tool from the perspective of reader, speaker/listener, and writer. Compose for a variety of purposes, emphasizing relationship between writer's purpose, context, audience expectation, and the argument. Meets English III or IV requirement.	✓	✓	
COLLEGE PREP ENGLISH HONORS	Independent reading, writing, and research, paralleling university experience with multi-genre, thematic units and critical thinking skills. Meets English IV requirement.	✓	✓	✓

Elective Course Offerings

		REPEATABLE COURSE	ONLINE COURSE OFFERED
JOURNALISM	Study of media with emphasis on the newspaper as a medium. Focus on news, sports, feature and editorial writing, interviewing, page layout and design, advertising, typography, gathering news, headline writing, studying ethical conduct in the journalism realm, meeting deadlines, and vocabulary used in the medium. Computer applications are utilized. Prerequisite for the newspaper and yearbook.		
NEWSPAPER	A laboratory course that publishes student newspapers keeping school and community informed about campus activities. Use and improve skills in all phases of journalistic writing, layout, word processing, and marketing. Opportunities to write for every section of the newspaper and have stories posted in the digital newspaper.	✓	
YEARBOOK	Focuses on the production of a book that documents the activities and people for that school year. Gain experience as writers, editors, photographers, computer technicians, graphic designers, historians, advertisers, and businesspeople while learning to function as a team.	✓	
CREATIVE WRITING	Improve use of multi-sensory imagery, figurative language, and other literary devices in order to forge a personal voice or style in imaginative, personal written expression. Write, revise, and present a variety of original written works. With a focus on working individually and collaboratively to revise and polish original work in preparation for presentation and publication.	✓	✓