

# Williston High School English Requirements

The English program of study includes developing literacy skills as outlined by the ND State Language Arts Standards and Benchmarks: reading, writing, speaking, listening, and researching. Standards and benchmarks can be discussed with any instructor or viewed at the ND State Department of Public Instruction website.

<p><b>Freshman Year</b></p> <p>1 credit    Reading/Language Arts 9 A &amp; B(sem)                   <b>OR</b></p> <p>½ credit    English 9A and ½ credit    English 9B                   <b>OR</b></p> <p>1 credit    Honors English 9</p>	<p><b>Sophomore Year</b></p> <p>1 credit    Reading/Language Arts 10 A &amp; B (sem)                   <b>OR</b></p> <p>½ credit    English 10A and ½ credit    English 10B                   <b>OR</b></p> <p>1 credit    Honors English 10</p>
<p><b>Junior Year</b></p> <p>1 credit    Reading/Language Arts 11 A&amp;B (sem)                   <b>OR</b></p> <p>½ credit    American Literature and ½ credit    Jr. Lang and Composition                   <b>OR</b></p> <p>2 credits    American Pageant*</p> <p><small>*also fulfills US History Requirement</small></p>	<p><b>Senior Year</b></p> <p>1 credit    Reading/Language Arts A &amp; B(sem)                   <b>OR</b></p> <p>½ credit    British Literature and ½ credit    Advanced Composition                   <b>OR</b></p> <p>1 credit    Dual Credit Composition/English</p>
<p><b>Electives*</b></p>	
<p>1 credit    Journalism – Yearbook</p> <p>½ credit    Myths and Legends</p> <p>½ credit    Oral Communications/Speech</p>	<p>½ credit    Film Study</p> <p>½ credit    Science Fiction</p> <p>½ credit    Creative Writing</p> <p><small>* Course offerings based on instructor availability</small></p>

**Teacher recommendation for Reading/Language Arts, Honors English, and Dual Credit English includes, but is not limited to: reading scores, MAP scores, grades, attendance, and attitude. Students will be required to get a signed recommendation from previous English teacher to be eligible for enrollment.**

**Reminder: Summer School English at WHS is REMEDIAL (meaning it is taken as a make-up class if a student has failed the class during the regular school year). Students are not allowed to take any Summer School English course that they have not previously taken and failed.**

**■ Reading/Language Arts 9 A & B**

Class Type:            Required  
 Grade Level:         9  
 Credit:                 ½ each semester  
 Pre-requisite:        1 credit English 8; teacher recommendation  
 Extra Costs:         Paperbacks

**\* May not be taken concurrently with any other required English class.**

This course is designed with an emphasis on developing reading, writing, and speaking skills. Course work focuses on the following strategies: 1. to read literature silently and orally, 2. to strengthen basic grammar skills, 3. to write sentences, paragraphs, and short compositions, and 4. to develop study skills. (Class size limited to 15.)

### ■ English 9 A & B

Class Type: Required  
Grade Level: 9  
Credit: ½ each semester  
Pre-requisite: 1 credit English 8  
Extra Costs: Paperbacks

\* May not be taken concurrently with any other required English class.

This course is designed to build on the foundations provided in grades 7 & 8. Experience in compositions and literature allow the students to develop and strengthen more mature reading and writing skills. Writing will include paragraphs, short compositions, and research basics along with creative writing experiences. Literature will focus on various genres, both modern and classic. Students will also be given the basics in public speaking.

### ■ Honors English 9

Class Type: Required  
Grade Level: 9  
Credit: 1  
Pre-requisite: 1 credit English 8; Application, teacher recommendation  
Extra Costs: Paperbacks

\* May not be taken concurrently with any other required English class.

This course is designed to follow the same course work as English 9 but is designed for students who have the ability to master language arts at an advanced rate. The course will cover topics in more depth and have a greater focus on writing and speaking skills than the English 9 class. Students who take this course must be self-motivated.

### ■ Reading/Language Arts 10 A & B

Class Type: Required  
Grade Level: 10  
Credit: ½ each semester  
Pre-requisite: 1 credit English 9; teacher recommendation  
Extra Costs: Paperbacks

\* May not be taken concurrently with any other required English class.

This course is designed with an emphasis on the continued development of reading, writing, and speaking skills. Course work will continue to build upon skills learned in Basic English 9. Students will read literary works silently and aloud, build upon and strengthen basic grammar skills, build upon their knowledge of sentence and paragraph structure to develop longer compositions. (Class size limited to 15.)

### ■ English 10 A & B

Class Type: Required  
Grade Level: 10  
Credit: ½ each semester  
Pre-requisite: 1 credit English 9  
Extra Costs: Paperbacks

\* May not be taken concurrently with any other required English class.

This course is designed to build on the foundations provided in grades 7, 8, and 9 and prepare the students for upper-level English courses. Literary readings will come from a variety of genres including fiction, non-fiction, and novels. Compositions will include short essays, creative writing assignments, and a research paper. Students will continue to build upon basic public speaking skills that were learned in grade 9.

### ■ Honors English 10

Class Type: Required  
Grade Level: 10  
Credit: 1  
Pre-requisite: 1 credit English 9; Application, teacher recommendation  
Extra Costs: Paperbacks

\* May not be taken concurrently with any other required English class.

This course is designed to follow the same course work as English 10, but it is designed for students who have the ability to master language art skills at an advanced rate. The course will cover topics more in-depth and have a greater focus on reading, writing, and speaking skills than the English 10 class. Students who take this course must be self-motivated.

### ■ Reading/Language Arts 11 A & B

Class Type: Required  
Grade Level: 11  
Credit: ½ each semester  
Pre-requisite: 1 credit English 9, 1 credit English 10; teacher recommendation  
Extra Costs: Paperbacks

\* May not be taken concurrently with any other required English class.

In this course students will refine literacy skills: reading, writing, speaking, listening, and researching. Activities and strategies will be chosen carefully to meet individual and group requirements. This course is required for all students not enrolled in Composition, American Literature, or American Pageant. (Class size limited to 15.)

### ■ Jr. Language and Composition

Class Type: Required  
Grade Level: 11  
Credit: ½  
Pre-requisite: 1 credit English 9, 1 credit English 10

\* May not be taken concurrently with any other required English class.

Junior Composition will focus on the growth of students' writing and speaking competencies. Foundational connections will be made to American literature, history, and culture. Students will work extensively within the 6+1 traits framework, constructing a variety of written pieces that focus on persuasion, exposition, research writing, and more.

### ■ American Literature

Class Type: Required  
Grade Level: 11  
Credit: ½  
Pre-requisite: 1 credit English 9, 1 credit English 10

\* May not be taken concurrently with any other required English class.

This course will cover the guidelines as set forth by the North Dakota Standards and Benchmarks for grade 11. The course will include a survey of American literature from the Colonial period through transcendentalism and the modern writers. Students will read from a variety of genres, will learn more about research and documentation, and will write about literature using research from credible sources.

### ■ American Pageant

Class Type: Alternative to English 11/US History I & II  
Grade Level: 11  
Credit: 2 (1 in English, 1 in US History)  
Pre-requisite: 1 credit English 9, 1 credit English 10; Application  
Extra Costs: Paperbacks

\* May not be taken concurrently with any other required English class.

American Pageant is a two-hour block course that combines the teaching of United States History and American Literature. The course is team-taught by two instructors using both traditional and innovative methods. The design of American Pageant is for students to read, write, and research about a particular era through the events of history and the literature of its writers. This course is required for all students not enrolled in Composition, American Literature, or Reading/Language Arts 11. Students who take this course must be self-motivated.

### ■ Reading/Language Arts 12 A & B

Class Type: Required  
Grade Level: 12  
Credit: ½ each semester  
Pre-requisite: 3 credits of required English; teacher recommendation  
Extra Costs: Paperbacks

\* May not be taken concurrently with any other required English class.

In this course students will continue to refine literacy skills: reading, writing, speaking, listening, and researching. Activities and strategies will be chosen carefully to meet individual and group requirements. This course is required for all students not enrolled in Advanced Composition, British Literature, or Dual Credit. (Class size limited to 15.)

### ■ Sr. Language and Composition

Class Type: Required  
Grade Level: 12  
Credit: ½  
Pre-requisite: 3 credits of required English

\* May not be taken concurrently with any other required English class.

This course strongly focuses on the 6+1 traits model of writing to guide and assess individual writers. Students will be required to share their writing as well as provide specific feedback to peers. Throughout the course, students will examine classic and modern literature as models of effective writing. Topics of study include: research, documentation (MLA and APA), essays, business letters, resumes, and other business communications. This course is required for all students not enrolled in Dual Credit Composition. The course will comply with North Dakota State Standards and Benchmarks for grade 12.

### ■ British Literature

Class Type: Required of all not enrolled in Dual Credit Composition

Grade Level: 12

Credit: ½

Pre-requisite: 3 credits of required English

\* May not be taken concurrently with any other required English class.

This course is designed as a survey of English literature including Beowulf, Chaucer, Shakespeare, the Romantic and the Victorian Ages. Types of writing studied include poetry, essays, plays, and short stories. Students will use researching strategies, reading, writing, and speaking skills. The course will comply with North Dakota State Standards and Benchmarks for grade 12.

### ■ Dual Credit Composition/English

Class Type: Alternative to Sr. Lang and Composition and British Literature

Grade Level: 12

Credit: 1 credit (high school); 3 credits per semester @ WSC

Pre-requisite: 3 credits of required English; Application, teacher recommendation

Required Fees: Williston State College tuition (reduced rate)

Extra Costs: Paperbacks

\* May not be taken concurrently with any other required English class.

Two semester courses devoted to a study of written English as a means of effective communication, emphasizing the writing, critical thinking, rhetoric, and reading. Each semester counts as 1/2 of the student's high school credit and 3-semester hours of college credit through Williston State College. Students will be responsible for paying the college tuition and for purchasing required textbooks, and they will be required to get written teacher recommendation to enroll. Students who take this course must be self-motivated.

### ■ Journalism - Yearbook

Class Type: Elective

Grade Level: 10 – 12

Credit: 1

Pre-requisite: 1 credit English 9; good attendance; B average in English courses

Extra Costs: None

This course emphasizes yearbook production fundamentals. Students will plan and design the yearbook, which requires work outside the classroom hour and into the summer for completion of the book. This class may be taken more than once; however, only three credits of journalism may be applied toward graduation requirements.

### ■ Myths and Legends

Class Type: Elective

Grade Level: 10 -12

Credit: ½

Pre-requisite: 1 credit of English 9

Extra Costs: Paperback(s)

This course focuses on refining literacy skills through the study of fiction that includes, but is not limited to, mythology, legend, and folklore from various cultures. Students will engage in various reading strategies, discuss and evaluate literature and peer writing using the 6+1 traits of writing model, and work on diverse projects individually and in small groups.

### ■ Creative Writing

Class Type: Elective  
Grade Level: 10 -12  
Credit: ½  
Pre-requisite: 1 credit of English 9  
Extra Costs: Paperbacks

Creative Writing is open to students who have demonstrated above average ability in writing. In addition to weekly assignments, students will create a published 30 page portfolio of their writing. The portfolio will include several styles of writing. Work will include both fiction and non-fiction writing. Students will work on revision and peer editing skills. To refine the skill of effective writing, The 6+1 traits writing model and other strategies will be used in this class.

### ■ Oral Communications/Speech

Class Type: Elective  
Grade Level: 10 -12  
Credit: ½  
Pre-requisite: 1 credit of English 9  
Extra Costs: Notebook, folder, note cards and tag board

Oral communications is a course in which the student will gain experience and expertise in oral interpretation and in writing and delivering formal public speeches. In addition, work will also include exercises and assignments to improve variety in voice, to increase ease in front of an audience, and to enhance fluidity in actions. Production of announcements may be included. A high school speech course is recommended for those preparing for college.

### ■ Film Study

Class Type: Elective-Summer Session  
Grade Level: 10-12  
Credit: ½  
Pre-requisite: 1 credit of English 9  
Extra Costs: Paperbacks

This course is designed to use classic and contemporary film as an exciting new way to examine film making as an art form: as literature, as theater, and as its own form, cinematography. We will use film clips, full-length classic films, and movie storyboards to study film making from the actor, director, and cinematographer's perspective. We will also follow the newest technology being used for special effects.

### ■ Science Fiction

Class Type: Elective  
Grade Level: 10-12  
Credit: ½  
Pre-requisite: 1 credit of English 9  
Extra Costs: Paperbacks

This course focuses on the study of science fiction as a special genre of literature. We will examine the themes and techniques, as well as some of the unique problems and possibilities of science fiction. Much of this involves what any literature class does, which is reading a shared group of books and completing assignments, doing activities, and having class discussion about our impressions and ideas and how they relate to other literature, to pop culture, etc.