

English

9th Grade English

This course is structured around the Common Core State English Language Arts Standards. This course is designed to provide scholars with the knowledge and skills required for success in English Language Arts in 10th grade and college. It will prepare a scholar to successfully communicate through formal writing and presentation utilizing effective grammar and vocabulary skills.

As ninth grade marks many important transitions in a scholar's life, the theme for this year is "Coming of Age." Scholars will learn what it means to "come of age" and also understand how their experiences and the things they are exposed to shape who they are. Throughout the school year, many of our readings, activities, and writing topics will help the student explore this theme.

10th Grade English

ELA Grade 10 curriculum offers a variety of rich texts that engage students in analysis of literary and journalistic nonfiction as well as poetry, drama, and fiction. Classic and contemporary voices represented in ELA 10 include John Steinbeck, James Baldwin, Shirley Chisholm, Marjane Satrapi, Frederick Douglass, William Shakespeare, Ilyasah Shabazz, Ta-Nehisi Coates, Jesmyn Ward, Etheridge Knight and many others. Working with these texts, students will build knowledge, analyze ideas, delineate arguments and greatly strengthen their writing, collaboration, and communication skills. Specifically aligned to the Common Core Learning Standards, our class is designed to advance scholars towards excellence both in the academic setting and beyond.

11th Grade English

This course is structured around the Common Core State English Language Arts Standards. This course will explore how literary elements and literary devices are used in literature. Scholars will focus on critical reading as well as the use citing evidence in their writing. Scholars will read and evaluate various types of informational (non-fiction) and fictional literature to identify how an author uses their craft to entertain and inform the reader. Scholars will develop technical points of writing skills, so that their papers will be clear, consistent, and aligned to the topic discussed. This course will also include intense ELA Regents preparation for scholars.

12th Grade English

From Philando Castille to Emmett Till, no matter the decade or even century, Black and Brown men have been murdered on American land without any regard and value of their lives mattering more than the soil beneath his feet. We are told from our leaders to "play by the rules" (Bill Clinton), and to believe in the narrative that "if you had to choose a time to be, in the words of Lorraine Hansberry, 'young, gifted, and black' in America, you would choose right now" (Barack Obama). However, as we watch the news, we see it on our Facebook newsfeed, America feels hostile and dangerous even for men of color who "play by the rules." In order to navigate this vast American landscape, as young men of color we have to first connect education with reality in order to strengthen our voice and militarize the unity within our community. The paradox of education as beautifully written by James Baldwin is "that as one begins to become conscious one begins to examine the society in which he is being educated." Baldwin's sentiment is the main purpose for developing this course ***Finding the American Consciousness for the American Black Male: His Origins, Masculinity and Place on the American Landscape***. This course will get you informed and make you reflect reflect in order to liberate and take control of your own voice and narrative of Black and Brown men in society.