

English IV is the fourth of four required courses in the English sequence; it is a survey course exposing students to the breadth of British literature. The course is chronologically organized and students will examine several time periods, with particular focus on the Anglo-Saxon, Medieval, Renaissance, Romantic and Victorian, and Modern periods. English IV encompasses a variety of fiction and nonfiction genres, short stories, novels, and plays that span the various historical periods. Students will understand the origin and development of the English language from Old English to present-day colloquial English, including the differences between British and American English. Students will learn to evaluate additional sources for reliability and validity to enhance their understanding and deepen their appreciation of British literature. Students will understand how the thoughtful study of humanities, particularly the arts, illuminates history and underscores the human condition. The goal of English IV is to prepare senior students with appropriate reading, writing, grammar and study skills necessary for the rigor of college courses. English IV is the culmination of a student's primary and secondary English education and as such, students will demonstrate mastery of everything they have learned. Various forms of assessment (for example daily, weekly, and common cycle assessments), a wide range of reading materials, writing, oral literacy, and collaborative learning strategies will be utilized to address various learning styles and skill sets of students. Students will master more advanced grammar, English, writing, and reading skills along with meeting a range of academic goals. The exercises in critical reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills will help students develop an understanding of the research process as well as how to identify and evaluate information taken from various sources. Students will also comprehend and apply these skills in writing for a variety of tones, styles, and situations. Throughout the course, students will read, synthesize, discuss, compare and contrast a range of literary works of different periods, genres, styles, and contexts. Students will build vocabulary and develop a clear understanding of language usage. Students will also expand their appreciation of literature and acquire an understanding of the literary features of the classic works being read as well as recognize what makes these works important today.