RINCON RANGERS

Language Arts Course Descriptions

ELD I Reading I, 2
For ELLs scoring at the AZELLA Pre-emergent/Emergent levels, this course provides an introduction to literacy in English. Teachers use brief, age-appropriate readings from the adopted textbooks and authentic literature. The materials are aligned with Arizona Discrete Skills Inventory.
Grades 9, 10, 11 & 12

ELD II Reading 1, 2
For ELLs scoring at the AZELLA Basic level, this course provides a second year of instruction in literacy in English. Teachers use brief, age-appropriate readings from the adopted textbooks and authentic literature. The materials are aligned with Arizona Discrete Skills Inventory.
Grades 9, 10, 11 & 12

ELD III Language Arts
For ELLs scoring at the AZELLA Intermediate level, this course is part of a 2-hour block (in conjunction with ELD III (ELD IV) Language Arts Support) and is designed to improve students' English listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. The main focus of the course is on improving students' ability to think and organize their thoughts in English, and learning to think about challenging material at a higher level. Students will read short stories, poetry, novels, and plays, and work on different styles of writing. Students will also be expected to participate in class discussions and will be required to do several oral presentations throughout the year. Course materials are aligned with Arizona's English Language Proficiency Standards for Listening and Speaking, Reading, Writing and Language.
Grades 9, 10, 11 & 12

ELD IV Language Arts
For ELLs scoring at the AZELLA Intermediate level, this course is part of a 2-hour block (in conjunction with ELD III (ELD IV) Language Arts Support) and is designed to improve students' English listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. The main focus of the course is on improving students' ability to think and organize their thoughts in English, and learning to think about challenging material at a higher level. Students will read short stories, poetry, novels, and plays, and work on different styles of writing. Students will also be expected to participate in class discussions and will be required to do several oral presentations throughout the year. Course materials are aligned with Arizona's English Language Proficiency Standards for Listening and Speaking, Reading, Writing and Language.
Grades 9, 10, 11 & 12

English 9
Freshman English will emphasize critical reading, writing, speaking, listening, and thinking skills as outlined in the Arizona Standards in order to provide a solid foundation not only with English skills,

English GATE 9
While mastery of basic skills as described in the Freshman English course is emphasized, the honors program requires additional in-class reading and writing as well as a heavier homework load. Students are subject to high expectations, particularly with regard to the development of critical thinking skills and the ability to successfully complete complex writing tasks.

English 10
Sophomore English continues to emphasize critical reading, writing, speaking, listening, and thinking skills as outlined in the Arizona Standards in order to provide a solid foundation not only with English skills, but also in preparation for the AIMS test. Students will focus on vocabulary development and reading comprehension strategies through understanding literary, functional and persuasive text and test-taking skills.

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English Honors 10
This is an enriched course surveying short stories, essays, drama and novels. Selected works by world recognized authors are included. Students review basic sentence structure to understand and practice correct usage. They refine their writing skills and add variety exploring theme and character development. Research papers and persuasive essays are also required. Students study AIMS skills within the context of their reading and writing assignments. The course requires additional in-class reading and writing as well as a heavier homework load. Students are subject to high expectations, particularly with regard to the development of critical thinking skills and the ability to successfully complete complex writing tasks.

English-Culturally Relevant African American Viewpoint 5, 6
In this course, students will explore African American literature, poetry and plays beginning with oral traditions and ending with contemporary works. Students will examine the cultural, historical, and political contexts of the literature.

English-Culturally Relevant Mexican American Viewpoint 5, 6
This Chicano and Chicana literature course examines culture, language, and oral expression in historical and thematic context. Emphasis is placed on understanding and interpreting the cultural, ethnic, social and political dynamics.

English 11
Junior English emphasizes mastery in the areas of reading, writing, listening, speaking, and critical thinking. Junior English explores the genres and eras of American literature by reading and critically analyzing personal experience narratives, essays, historical accounts, speeches, and fiction, including short stories, novels, and dramas. Students see the juxtaposition of American literature with American history and their impact on the world and individual today. Students develop and refine writing skills writing persuasive essays and speeches, literary analyses, and narratives. Special projects, oral presentations, and collaborative group work are included to further develop speaking and listening skills. Composition lessons focus on organization, work choice, sentence fluency, and the research process including MLA format and documentation.

English Language [AP English Language] 1, 2 (English 11 credit)
The AP English Language and Composition course aligns to an introductory college-level rhetoric and writing curriculum, which requires students to develop evidence-based analytic and argumentative essays that proceed through several stages or drafts. Students evaluate, synthesize, and cite research to support their arguments. Throughout the course, students develop a personal style by making appropriate grammatical choices. Additionally, students read and analyze the rhetorical elements and their effects in non-fiction texts, including graphic images as forms of text, from many disciplines and historical periods.

English 11/Writing 101 dual credit (English 11 credit and 3 credits via PCC)
Students have the opportunity to take college level English during their junior and senior year of high school. The credit is through Pima Community College. Students must place into Writing 101 via the accuplacer test.

English-Culturally Relevant African American Viewpoint 7, 8
This course explores the ways in which various African American and some Anglos and other authors have written about race, class and gender. Among the courses concepts are: the intersection of race, class and gender, and the ways in which the writers reflect and or transcend their culture.

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English-Culturally Relevant Mexican American Viewpoint 7, 8
This Chicano/a literature course examines a variety of literary genres - poetry, short fiction, and novels - to explore the historical development of Chicano/a social and literary identity with a focus on race, class, gender, sexual orientation, family, education, and language.

English 12
This class continues development of all forms of writing, critical reading skills, and communication, particularly public speeches. This course will aid students in making practical applications of English skills while furthering coursework. Students will continue to improve their use of the writing process and evaluation of writing. This course continues to emphasize critical reading, writing, speaking, listening, and thinking skills as outlined in the Arizona Standards.

English Literature [AP English Literature] 1, 2 (English 12 credit)
The AP English Literature and Composition course aligns to an introductory college-level literary analysis course. The course engages students in the close reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature to deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure. As they read, students consider a work's structure, style, and themes, as well as its use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone. Writing assignments include expository, analytical, and argumentative essays that require students to analyze and interpret literary works.

English 12/Writing 101 Dual Credit (English 12 credit and 3 credits via PCC)
Students have the opportunity to take college level English during their junior and senior year of high school. The credit is through Pima Community College. Students must place into Writing 101 via the accuplacer test.

English Electives:

Criminal Minds in Literature and History 1, 2
Psychologists, historians, writers, sociologists, and many others have remained fascinated and baffled by the criminal mind and his/her impact on the times. Great criminals have made for great stories, and this course taught in conjunction with the historical context, addresses all the current standards through this lens. Students will study sociopathology, criminal psychology and history while reading and writing about the great criminal minds of specific time periods and cultures. Students will study and apply philosophical concepts of justice to common day beliefs and behaviors. Is it ever just to break the law? What happens when your beliefs are at odds with the law? Are criminals born criminal? This course should appeal to those interested in forensic science, psychology, philosophy, history and culture.