

ROBOTICS CONCEPTS 3-4

Students will thoroughly examine a robotics design problem and implement the best possible solution to the proposed problem. The problem will require students to develop deeper understanding of robotics design and implementation. Examples would include transmission design, pneumatic controls and in-depth precision programming control. Students will be required to participate in area robotics competitions.

Prerequisites: Grade of "C" or better in Introduction to Robotics 1-2

Duration: 2 semesters

Credit: 1 per semester

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

ROBOTICS CONCEPTS 5-6

Students will thoroughly examine robotics design problem, develop an original possible solution and document the stages of the design process. The problem will require students to develop deeper understanding of robotics design, implementation, and problem solving for a specified criterion. This course applies science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) concepts. Examples would include transmission design, pneumatic controls and in-depth precision programming control. Students will be required to participate in area robotics competitions.

Prerequisites: Grade of "C" or better in Robotics Concepts 3-4

Duration: 2 semesters

Credit: 1 per semester

Grade Level: 11, 12

ROBOTICS CONCEPTS 7-8

Students will build on concepts from 5-6 and further examine robotics design problems and implement the best possible solution to the proposed problem. The problem will require students to develop deeper understanding of robotics design and implementation. Students will use the foundation of skills and knowledge of robotics to design and implement a project of their own. Student teams will take advantage of Open Source software and hardware to execute their project then present their results. Students will be required to participate in area robotics competitions.

Prerequisites: Grade of "C" or better in Robotics Concepts 5-6 and instructor permission

Duration: 2 semesters

Credit: 1 per semester

Grade Level: 12

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

The goals of the English Department are to develop basic skills in grammar and composition and to introduce the student to the literature of western civilization, emphasizing especially the English and American traditions. Students also encounter continental, Asian, African, Hispanic, and Native American literary texts in translation.

Department Chair – Mrs. Jodie Martinez – 402.557.3354

Number of Credits Required for Graduation:

Eight

Required Courses:

English 1-2

English 3-4

English 5-6

English 7-8

Honors Courses:

Honors English 1-2

Honors English 3-4

AP Courses:

AP English Language and Composition 1-2

AP English Literature and Composition 1-2

Elective Courses:

Journalism I (Honors Option)

Yearbook (O-Book) (Honors Option)

Newspaper (Register) (Honors Option)

Creative Writing (Honors Option)

Honors Academic Research and Writing

English Review (one semester)

Word Study (Honors Option)

ENGLISH 1-2

This course covers the skills and standards described in the Nebraska State Standards for Language Arts including reading, writing, speaking, listening, and multiple literacies. Students study the sequence of language and composition skills assigned to this level, write five required themes each semester, and read a wide range of literary selections including the short story, poetry, Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, and works such as *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* and *The Count of Monte Cristo* among others.

Prerequisites: None

Duration: 2 semesters

Credit: 1 per semester

Grade Level: 9

HONORS ENGLISH 1-2

Students follow an accelerated English 1-2 curriculum that involves in-depth study of grammar and usage, intense literary experiences with sophisticated texts such as Rouse's translation of Homer's *Odyssey*, the unabridged edition of Dickens' *Great Expectations*, and Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* among others. Students will write a minimum of five expository, analytical papers per semester. This is not a creative writing or journalism experience. It is the beginning of a demanding college preparatory honors program requiring extensive homework.

Prerequisites: Permission and student must secure a copy of the "Honors English Student Expectations"

Duration: 2 semesters

Credit: 1 per semester

Grade Level: 9

ENGLISH 3-4

This course covers the skills and standards described in the Nebraska State Standards for Language Arts including reading, writing, speaking, listening, and multiple literacies. Grammar, composition, and literature are the topics of this course with emphasis on a formal introduction to expository writing. Students write five themes each semester. Literary selections include *Idylls of the King*, *A Tale of Two Cities*, *Julius Caesar*, a study of Greek and Roman mythology, and additional works selected by the teacher.

Prerequisites: None

Duration: 2 semesters

Credit: 1 per semester

Grade Level: 10

HONORS ENGLISH 3-4

This course continues the honors spiral that culminates in AP English during the junior and senior years. Students follow the English 3-4 curriculum plus additional reading experiences, including *Silas Marner*, *Othello*, and other works selected by the teacher. A special composition on narrative style is an addition to the five required themes each semester. Students also write an analytical composition based on an independent reading. Students who successfully complete this course will be prepared for AP English Language and Composition in their junior year.

Prerequisites: Honors English 1-2 or permission

Duration: 2 semesters

Credit: 1 per semester

Grade Level: 10

ENGLISH 5-6

This course covers the skills and standards described in the Nebraska State Standards for Language Arts including reading, writing, speaking, listening, and multiple literacies. The junior offering provides a continuation of grammar and composition skills including the writing of six themes each semester. American literature from 1510 to the present is the main area of concentration. Individual selections include *The Scarlet Letter*, *My Antonia*, and selected poems, plays, and short stories.

Prerequisites: None

Duration: 2 semesters

Credit: 1 per semester

Grade Level: 11

AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION 1-2

This course is designed to engage students in the careful reading and critical analysis of primarily nonfiction works. The course also covers selections from American literature and poetry. Through the close reading and use of other AP learning strategies, students will deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their readers. This course follows the College Board Curriculum and involves extensive reading and writing. Students may earn college credit by taking the corresponding AP exam at the conclusion of the course. That determination is made by the post-secondary institution. **Concurrent enrollment in AP World History is highly recommended.**

Prerequisites: Honors English 3-4 and/or permission

Duration: 2 semesters

Credit: 1 per semester

Grade Level: 11

ENGLISH 7-8

This course covers the skills and standards described in the Nebraska State Standards for Language Arts including reading, writing, speaking, listening, and multiple literacies. The senior English course provides a continued study of grammar and composition skills. English literature from the Anglo-Saxon period through the present is the main emphasis. Selections include *Macbeth*, *Hamlet*, selected poems, plays, short stories, and novels. The composition requirement is six themes each semester.

Prerequisites: None

Duration: 2 semesters

Credit: 1 per semester

Grade Level: 12

ENGLISH 7-8 (Holocaust Literature)

In addition to covering the skills and standards described in the Nebraska State Standards for Language Arts, the directives and guiding questions of English 8 will influence the nature of the universal themes for study. World literature focused on the Holocaust is the main emphasis. Selections include *Night*, *The Sunflower*, and selected short stories poems and films. The composition requirement is six themes.

Prerequisites: None

Duration: 1 semester

Credit: 1 per semester

Grade Level: 12

ENGLISH 7-8 (Global Issues/Social Justice)

In addition to covering the skills and standards described in the Nebraska State Standards for Language Arts, the directives and guiding questions of English 8 will influence the nature of the universal themes for study. The emphasis of the class will be on current issues in the world and social justices for all groups of people using modern narratives, Young Adult Literature, informational texts, and various forms of media. The goals of this class are to represent the voices of those who have been silenced and represent diverse people groups and perspectives.

Prerequisites: None

Duration: 1 semester

Credit: 1 per semester

Grade Level: 12

AP ENGLISH LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION 1-2

Students begin this course in the summer following their junior year by completing reading assignments. The course follows the College Board curriculum, and builds upon skills developed in the honors and AP courses taken in the freshmen through junior years. It exposes students to a wide range of literary offerings from ancient Greece to contemporary world literature in translation. Students continue to practice close reading techniques, build their vocabularies and comfort with the language of literary analysis, and approach literature independently with increasing sophistication and critical thinking. In addition to the six in-class literary based themes, students write several informal essays, and two research-based papers using MLA formatting. Students may earn college credit by taking the corresponding AP exam in the spring; the amount of college credit is determined by individual post-secondary institutions. Dual enrollment options may be available.

Prerequisites: AP English Language and Composition and/or permission

Duration: 2 semesters

Credit: 1 per semester

Grade Level: 12

CREATIVE WRITING (Honors Option)

This workshop-style course provides students with opportunities to share verse, fiction, discursive prose and drama. Students in all grade levels will be challenged to enhance their communication skills, extend their appreciation of language, express themselves creatively, and collaborate with other writers. Honors credit students form the editorial staff for *Dimension* (published annually) and *Duct Tape* (published quarterly), Central's literary publications. This one semester course may be taken in successive semesters and years.

Prerequisites: Grade of "C" or better in previous high school English classes or "B" in eighth grade English classes.

Duration: 1 semester

Credit: 1 per semester

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

JOURNALISM 1-2 (Honors Option)

This course introduces students to the entire field of journalism, including the newspaper, public relations, photography basics, and yearbook design. Students will learn the history of journalism in the United States. Emphasis is on AP style writing. Second semester further develops students' writing in the journalism field, with heavy focus on news reporting, feature writing, editorial writing, and sports reporting. This is an intense writing course which requires teamwork and a time commitment well beyond class time.

Prerequisites: "B" or above in English classes (or "B" in eighth grade English classes)

Duration: 2 semesters

Credit: 1 per semester

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

NEWSPAPER PRODUCTION (The Register) (Honors Option)

This advanced journalism course requires students to fill staff positions, write and edit stories, complete layouts on the computer, take photographs, design graphics, and sell ads for the school newspaper. This course requires teamwork and a time commitment well beyond class time.

Prerequisites: "B" in Journalism 1 and teacher approval

Duration: 2 semesters

Credit: 1 per semester

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

PHOTOJOURNALISM 1-2

Students will learn and apply advanced photography and software techniques to produce high quality photographs for the yearbook, newspaper, and/or online publications.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credit: 1 per semester

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

YEARBOOK (O-BOOK) (Honors Option)

This workshop class is one in which advanced students plan, write and edit stories, take pictures, do layouts on the computer, and sell ads as part of the yearbook production class.

Prerequisites: "C" in Journalism 1 and teacher approval

Duration: 2 semesters

Credit: 1 per semester

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

ENGLISH REVIEW

This one-semester course allows a student to make up one credit of English 1-8. Remediation of skills is the basis of design for this course. Students review and practice reading and writing skills including grammar, vocabulary development, composition, and study skills. Assignments will be tailored to meet the particular needs of students. Students will encounter high-interest texts and may be required to complete practical writing assignments as one or two of the five required formal compositions.

Though successful completion of the course makes up one required credit of English, this credit does not fulfill minimum university English requirements for admission.

Prerequisites: None

Duration: 1 semester

Credit: 1 per semester

Grade Level: 11, 12

HONORS ACADEMIC RESEARCH AND WRITING

The focus of this class is on formal academic research writing in which students gain proficiency in locating and evaluating primary and secondary sources (print and electronic), analyzing the arguments within these sources, and constructing original informed arguments based on conclusions drawn from research. Students will write for varied purposes and formats with an emphasis placed on how to cite sources appropriately based on the subject area's style guides (e.g. MLA, APA, etc.). The course will focus on general research skills as well as the specific skills needed for researching and writing in science, math, English, and social studies.

Prerequisites: An interest in developing and improving research and writing skills. Pre-IBDP students should give serious consideration to this course in preparation for the Extended Essay.

Duration: 1 semester

Credit: 1

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

WORD STUDY (Honors Option)

Word Study examines Latin and Greek roots of English words. This is a college preparatory course, which teaches students to be precise, accurate and careful with the use of their English language. Word Study will teach students to think, to read with more understanding and to enlarge their vocabularies. It will also sharpen students' grasp of the meaning of English words. The course serves as an outstanding preparation for the ACT and SAT. Word Study may be taken for honors credit. For the honors level credit, the teacher will identify the adjustments in expectations, projects, and class work at the beginning of the semester.

Prerequisites: Students must have a "C" or above in English or permission of instructor

Duration: 1 semester

Credit: 1 per semester

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12