

Q & A

Q: How many years of English are required for High School graduation?

A: 4 years.

Q: How many Regents exams are given in English?

A: 1 Regents Exam, administered in June of 11th grade.

Q: Can a student take more than one English course?

A: Yes, a student can take an English elective course beyond the full year requirement. These courses will earn elective credit, not English credit.

Q: Can a freshman take an English elective course?

A: Yes. Creative Writing, Intro. to Journalism, Suspense and the Supernatural, Theatre, Heroes & Villains, and Film to Lit. will be open to students in grades 9-12.

Q: How are research skills embedded and developed in the English program?

A: Each grade level's curriculum specifies research components and includes a research project at each grade level. At least one research project will be completed each year 9-12.

Q: Are there any clubs we can join?

A: Yes. The English Honor Society and The Red & Black (school newspaper and broadcast) are both clubs you may join.

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Patchogue-Medford Schools

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Patchogue, NY 11772

ENGLISH



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PATCHOGUE-MEDFORD HIGH SCHOOL
NAVY (SEAL) LT. MICHAEL P. MURPHY CAMPUS

For more information visit the website
and view the Program of Studies at www.pmschools.org

COURSES

Full Year, 1 Credit

English 9 Regents
English 9 Pre- AP
English 10 Regents
English 10 Pre- AP
English 11 Regents
English 12



Advanced Placement

*English Language and Composition(11)

**English Literature and Composition (12)

Advanced Placement Seminar

* All students must take the AP Exam and the NYS Regents Exam

One-half Year, .5 Credit

(Fall or Spring Semester)

Introduction To Journalism

Theatre

Creative Writing

Film as Literature

Heroes vs Villains

Suspense & the Supernatural

Intro to Journalism

This half-year course is an English elective. In this course, students will learn the foundations of journalism, which include: brainstorming, interviewing, writing, editing, and reporting. Students will learn about the intricacies of journalism through a wide variety of non-fiction texts that include articles, memoirs, biographies, and the like. Students will explore the world of media, newspapers, social media, magazines and broadcasts as a means to report about people and events that shape our lives.

THEATRE (Grades 9-12)

Students will explore theatre basics including stage terminology, audition procedures, improvisational skills, stage production, and performance. This course not only offers students an opportunity to get an overview of the performing arts, but also brings together groups of diverse students and sheds light on our shared human experience, and in the process teaches students self-awareness, self-expression, discipline, compassion, and self-confidence. Throughout the course, students will work collectively to read and evaluate literature for the purpose of choosing monologues and/or scenes to be performed. All students engage in various reading and writing assignments in connection to theatrical production and performance. The culminating project for this course is performance and written analysis of selected material and may include an audience.

CREATIVE WRITING (Grades 9-12)

This course provides instruction in the elements of style and form. In addition, students acquire necessary real-world skills in written and oral self-expression. Various literary genres are first explored and analyzed. Students are then required to produce the writing forms of fiction, non-fiction, poetry, etc. Discussion, criticism, and analysis of student writers' works are a requirement for the workshop. Successful completion of the course is determined by teacher evaluation of student creative writing projects and completion of a writing portfolio.

FILM AS LITERATURE (Grades 9-12)

This course serves an introduction to film analysis. Students will critically watch, and provide written analysis for, a variety of films ranging from classical cinema and contemporary Hollywood hits, to international films and avant-garde movies. In treating film as literature, students will apply critical lenses to explore the nuances of these productions and decode what hidden messages these films are making about society. Students will respond to open-ended questions that foster their abilities to think critically of the world around them by means of in-class writing, verbal discussion, and virtual discussion boards. The potential films being viewed would be WALL-E, Up, Into the Wild, Cast Away, The Human Experience, Beowulf, Thor,

* Parental Consent will be required for some films.

HEROES AND VILLAINS: ADVENTURES IN FANTASY

(Grades 9-12)

The foundations of fantasy literature rest with the age-old tales of the struggle between heroes and villains. Luke Skywalker and Darth Vader, Harry Potter and Lord Voldemort, Dorothy and the Wicked Witch of the West, to name just a few. In this course, students will closely study the dynamics of heroes and villains from as early as European fairytales to the modern graphic novel anti-hero. Using both fairytale and mythological archetypes, students will examine the various journeys made by heroes as they struggle to overcome whatever villain (whether internal or external) stands in their way of victory.

SUSPENSE AND THE SUPERNATURAL (Grades 9-12)

How does the heart of human nature shape our questions and develop our fears? What makes us question the unknown and search for the truth? What makes us shiver with those things that go bump in the night? Why is it that we are intrigued by the questions that have no answer? What drives us to be thrilled by that which frightens us? This class will be a study in those ideas and more through the study of short stories, novellas, and film. Explore the darkness within and around us and all that is unknown. Authors to be studied include: Edgar Allan Poe, Agatha Christie, Ray Bradbury, Bram Stoker.

AP CAPSTONE (Grades 10-12)

AP Seminar is the first year of a two-year program called AP Capstone. It focuses on training students in the skills of Quest:

Question and Explore
Understand and Analyze Arguments
Evaluate Multiple Perspectives
Synthesizing Ideas
Team, Transform and Transmit.

It culminates in three activities: Team Project and Presentation, Individual Research Based Essay and Presentation, End of Course Exam in which students construct an evidenced based argument.

AP Research—Year Two of AP Capstone

The course requires students plan and conduct a study or investigation. The study will employ appropriate disciplinary research methods to, manage and conduct an in depth study or investigation in an area of the student's own interest in science or social studies, culminating in a paper to be performed or exhibited. Students will present and defend the research design, approach and findings to a panel.