

# English Electives open to 9<sup>th</sup> graders 2022-2023

## **Creative Writing I (Semester) (code 137)**

Creative Writing I is designed for ninth through twelfth grade students of all ability levels. This half-year course consists of three units: fiction, poetry, and drama. Students will read, discuss, and evaluate models of each genre as they write and revise their own work in a workshop atmosphere. Student writing will include writing prompt responses, fairy tales, short stories, a poetry anthology, and a one-act play while further developing skills outlined in the New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS).

## **Creative Writing II (H) (Semester) (code 138)**

**Prerequisite:** Creative Writing I

Creative Writing II Honors is a curriculum designed for ninth through twelfth grade students who have shown proficiency in Creative Writing I. This half year course consists of four units: memoir, flash fiction, poetry, and screenwriting. Students will read, discuss, and evaluate models of each genre as they write and revise their own work in a workshop atmosphere and further develop the skills outlined in the New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS). Student writing will include personal essays, flash fiction, a poetry anthology, and a television script.

## **Film Study (Semester) (code 155)**

Students taking Film Study approach the study of films theoretically, historically, and critically. The course is primarily concerned with exploring the narrative, artistic, cultural, economic, and political implications of the cinema. The goal of this course is for students to be able to speak about films intelligently and to be able to write critiques about movies in one of several contexts.

## **Journalism (code 136)**

This course examines the role of Journalism in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Students in this class will develop skills in all aspects of journalistic writing. In addition, students will explore the laws, ethics, and history of Journalism as well as researching related careers. Finally, students will analyze news written in the United States as well as the world.

**Mythology and Allusion (H) (Code 157)**

**Prerequisite:** Honors or AP Placement in the student's English class

This elective course examines mythology from many cultures and religions and draws connections among them. It also brings allusion and myth up to present day by drawing myth out of stories, poetry, and art. The class work is both creative and analytical. Units of study can include the following: the works of Tolkien and the Norse myths, which influenced him, Disney's female heroines and how the feminist movement influenced his writing, The Brothers Grimm and their impact on later fiction; religious text such as the Bible or Mahabharata.

**Public Speaking I (Semester) (Code 167)**

This semester course is focused on the skill of speaking in a public forum. Understandings will be established about the beginning stages of effective public speaking/presentation skills. Units covered will include the diverse types of comedy, the emphasis of drama (for students who like to act out), and the art of persuasion (come on, take this class!).

**Public Speaking II (Semester) (Code 170)**

**Prerequisite:** Public Speaking I

Have you ever had something to say, but could not find an effective way to say it? This course is a continuation and more advanced level of "Public Speaking I". Students will use the foundation they had already built to move from basic understanding to development and expression of their own voice (in communication style, not "la, la, la!"). Students will continue to use comedy and storytelling while learning to use deeper research techniques.