

## English Language Arts Course Descriptions

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### English Language Development

At Burnaby South, ELL 3 students develop their academic English skills by taking special Language Development courses. These courses have similar content and skills focuses as our regular English courses, but also emphasize language instruction.

- Grade 8s take **English Language Development 8**
- Grade 9s take **English Language Development 9**
- Grades 10-12 ELL 3s take **English 10 Language Adapted** (Literary Studies and Composition)

#### English 11/12 Semestered

English language learners who have successfully completed English 10 Language Adapted, and are in their graduation year, are eligible to enrol in English 11/12 Semestered. This course combines English 11 (Composition) and English Studies 12. Students will meet every day to complete these two courses, which are required for high school graduation. All content and skills for Composition 11 and English Studies 12 will be included in this course, with a special emphasis on language development.

Students must also enrol in **Academic Writing for English Language Learners 11** to support their success in this course.

## Grade 8

### English 8

In English 8, students will explore two major areas of curricular competency: comprehend and connect (**reading, listening, viewing**) and create and communicate (**writing, speaking, representing**).

This means English 8 students will spend their year exploring a wide variety of texts – including but not limited to novels, short stories, non-fiction, and poetry, and creating their own texts – including their own stories, poetry, presentations, paragraphs, and more. Through English 8, students will experience the pleasure of exploring story and the way it shapes identity, culture, and our understanding of the world.

### English 8 Honours (Students must write an entrance assessment)

English 8 Honours is an enriched English 8 class for mature, self-directed learners who love to read, write, discuss ideas, and create. Prospective English 8 Honours students will be selected based on their performance on a placement test scheduled for March 2026.

### English 8 Language Development

English 8 Language Development is a course for Grade 8 ELL Level 3 students. This course has similar content and skills focuses as our regular English 8 course, but also emphasizes language instruction.

## Grade 9

### English 9

English 9 continues and extends the skills students have developed in English 8, and introduces newer, more complex, texts. In English 9, students will explore two major areas of curricular competency: comprehend and connect (**reading, listening, and viewing**) and create and communicate (**writing, speaking, and representing**).

This means English 9 students will spend their year exploring a wide variety of texts – including but not limited to novels, short stories, non-fiction, and poetry, and creating their own texts – including their own stories, poetry, presentations, paragraphs, and more. Through English 9, students will experience the pleasure of exploring story and the way it shapes identity, culture, and our understanding of the world.

### English 9 Honours (Students must write an entrance assessment)

English 9 Honours is an enriched English 8 class for mature, self-directed learners who love to read, write, discuss, and create. English 9 Honours students will be selected by the English department based on their performance in English 8. All students are eligible to apply for English 9 Honours – English 8 Honours is not a prerequisite.

## **English 9 Language Development**

English 9 Language Development is a course for Grade 9 ELL Level 3 students. This course has similar content and skills focuses as our regular English 9 course, but also emphasizes language instruction.

## **Grade 10**

### **English 10: First Peoples Spoken Language**

English 10 First Peoples provides opportunities for students to learn about Indigenous creative expression, and the cultures of First Peoples. This course will introduce students to a wide range of texts (novels, stories, poetry, oral texts, film) created by Indigenous people, in a classroom environment that is reflective, relationship-focused, and based on real-life experiences. All interested students are encouraged to participate in Canada's Truth and Reconciliation work by enrolling in this course.

### **English 10: The Power of Voice - Spoken Language Focus**

The Power of Voice invites students to experience the power of spoken language, and learn how to tell their stories. Students will learn through dialogue and discussion, and gain skill in a variety of spoken language genres, including presentation, storytelling, and podcasting.

### **English 10: New Media: Film Studies**

Films are a form of storytelling that engages and draws people in through combining story with visual elements. Films are another form of communication that exposes, reflects, and comments on humanity. Films are a reflection of their time and through analyzing films, students can learn to understand their society better and see where society is heading into the future.

New Media Film Studies is designed to introduce students to the language and concepts of films such as narrative structure and visual elements – mise en scene and cinematography. They will examine elements of film that make it a distinct genre of communication. Students also explore the connections between literature and film and film and society.

### **English 10: Creative Writing**

Creative Writing students will study a variety of literary texts to understand structure and style. As writers, they will explore a wide variety of genres, including fiction, non-fiction, screenplay, children's fiction, and more. Students will become more skilled in the process of writing, from idea generation to editing and revising, and create a portfolio of work.

### **English 10 Honours: Composition** (Students must write an entrance assessment)

English 10 Honours students will read a variety of classic and contemporary literary texts, and learn through discussions and projects. This is an appropriate choice for students who are interested in a challenge, and love reading and writing. English 10 Honours is part of our pre-AP program. Students will be selected by the English Department based on their performance in their English 8 and 9 courses.

## **English 10 Language Adapted: EFP Spoken Language (ELD)**

English 10 Language Adapted is a course for Level 3 ELL Students in grades 10-12. Students will receive credit for English 10 Literary Studies and Composition. This course provides additional language support for ELL students to succeed in this English course.

## **Grade 11**

### **English11: First Peoples**

English 11 First Peoples provides opportunities for students to learn about Indigenous creative expression, and the cultures of First Peoples. This course will introduce students to a wide range of texts (novels, stories, poetry, oral texts, film) created by Indigenous people, in a classroom environment that is reflective, relationship-focused, and based on real-life experiences. All interested students are encouraged to participate in Canada's Truth and Reconciliation work by enrolling in this course.

### **English 11: Literary Studies**

English 11 Literary Studies will read and respond to a wide variety of literary works, some teacher-selected and some student-selected. Through this course, students will explore how literature reflects and shapes culture, history, and individuals.

For Literary Studies 11, teachers may choose a particular theme or area of focus that will span the course or a section of the course.

### **English 11: Creative Writing**

Creative Writing 11 is for students who want to develop their skills and confidence as writers, and learn how to express themselves creatively. In this course, students will explore a wide range of genres (fiction, poetry, memoir, and more). Through instruction and collaboration, students will become skilled in all stages of the writing process, and will read and study works of literature to better understand the work of expert writers.

### **English 11: Composition**

Composition 11 students will become more skilled writers, through the process of research, drafting, editing, and seeking feedback. They will study a wide range of texts to understand structure and style, and will write in a wide variety of genres, including essays, reports, persuasive compositions, and creative works. Through this course, Composition 11 students will become more confident and capable writers.

### **English 11: Spoken Language**

In Spoken Language 11, all students will discover the power of their voices, as they develop their skill as speakers. In this course, as well as writing and reading, students will study, create, write, and present spoken pieces for a variety of purposes and audiences. They will increase their confidence as speakers

and better understand how to plan and express themselves in a wide variety of spoken genres, including discussion, formal presentation, storytelling, and podcasting.

### **English 11: New Media – Science Fiction and Fantasy**

Burnaby South is offering a new and exciting way to explore literature through the works of noted authors like: Aesop, JRR Tolkien, HG Wells and Kurt Vonnegut, to name a few. Spanning from the time of Early First Nations and Ancient Greece to contemporary creations in the 21st century, Fairy Tales, Science and Fantasy Fiction provides a broad and deep look at our historical conceptions of the supernatural, while exploring the many ways that we have envisioned the future. As a New Media course, this class will also look at how the genres of science fiction and fantasy have been envisioned in film, image, and media.

### **English 11: Honours / Literary Studies 12**

Honours / Literary Studies 12 is our pre-AP English 11 course for those interested in taking AP English Literature and Composition. The course is open to students coming from both English 10 and English 10 Honours.

Students will study a survey of English literature focusing on the thought and culture expressed in English literary text from Beowulf (circa 900) to the end of the mid-20th century. The course encompasses a range of voices throughout history that have contributed to the development of our English literary heritage.

## **Grade 12**

### **English Studies 12**

In English 12, students will:

- Refine their ability to communicate effectively in a variety of contexts and to achieve their personal and career goals
- Think critically and creatively about the uses of language
- Explore texts from a variety of sources, in multiple modes, and that reflect diverse worldviews
- Deepen their understanding of themselves and others in a changing world
- Gain insight into the diverse factors that shape identity
- Appreciate the importance of self-representation through text
- Contribute to Reconciliation by building greater understanding of the knowledge and perspectives of First Peoples
- Expand their understanding of what it means to be educated Canadian and global citizens

### **English 12: First Peoples**

English 12 First Peoples explores literature through an Indigenous lens. This course is great for students who are passionate about social justice issues and anti-racism work. Students taking the course will be able to express their learning in a variety of ways, including podcasting, essay writing and creating visual

media. English First Peoples 12 fulfills all post secondary requirements for college and university and will give you a deeper insight into Canada's past and present.

English First Peoples 12 satisfies the Ministry's Indigenous Graduation requirement.

### **AP English Literature and Composition** (Includes credit for English Studies 12)

Students who want to better prepare themselves for further academic studies in any discipline and/or have a deeper interest in English Literature are encouraged to take AP English. The course is rigorous, demanding, enriching, and the majority of students who have taken the course have found it worthwhile, especially in their post-secondary studies. AP English is designed to prepare Grade 12 students for university level reading and writing. Students who complete AP English may write the AP English exam and qualify for post-secondary credit at certain universities and colleges. There is an extra fee to write the AP English exam in May. AP English students will still be required to write the Literacy Exam for Grade 12 graduation completion.

## **Senior Electives**

### **Literary Studies 12 (formerly Literature 12)**

Literary Studies 12 is a course recommended for anyone who loves literature and/or is planning on taking post-secondary English courses. Literary Studies 12 is a survey of major authors of English literature ranging from the Anglo-Saxon Period to the Twentieth Century. We will time travel back to 449 A.D. to the age of Beowulf with the aid of music, art, food and film and journey forward meeting the Modernists and everything in between. Students will gain an overview of the evolution of English Literature and how it intertwines and responds to historical and ideological movements through time. This course is a passport to western culture, and it is recommended to everyone who has an interest in the humanities.

### **Creative Writing 12**

If you are a creative thinker who loves to write, Creative Writing 12 is the course for you. The emphasis of the course is on further developing and honing the love you already have for writing while encouraging the development of deeply thoughtful and expressive writing through the creative exploration of a variety of genres and writing styles. In addition to script writing (for both film and stage) and one act plays, you will also have the opportunity in Creative Writing 12 to experiment with and write poetry, children's literature, short stories and more.