

St. Albert Catholic High School
English 10 -1
Pre - IB 08-09

The English 10 - 1 Pre IB course at St. Albert High School is designed for intellectually curious students who wish to extend their talents with language. To be considered for the program, students must have already demonstrated high academic achievement and motivation in the past; usually this means an honours standing in Grade 9 Language Arts. Providing a greater challenge for gifted and talented students, English 10 Pre IB combines meeting the requirements of the core curriculum with enrichment activities. It also determines potential candidates for the International Baccalaureate program and prepares students for the material covered in the IB program.

Program Rationale:

"There are two basic aims of the senior high school English language arts program:

- to encourage, in students, an understanding and appreciation of the significance and artistry of **literature**.
- to enable students to understand and appreciate **language** and to use it confidently for a variety of purposes, with a variety of audiences and in a variety of situations for communication, personal satisfaction and learning."

Expected Outcomes:

"The general outcomes are interrelated and interdependent; each is to be achieved through a variety of **listening, speaking, reading, writing, viewing** and **representing** experiences . . . to:

- explore thoughts, ideas, feelings and experiences
- comprehend and respond personally, critically, and creatively to literature and to other texts in oral, print, visual and multimedia forms
- manage ideas and information
- create oral, print, visual and multimedia texts, and enhance the clarity and artistry of communication
- respect, support and collaborate with others."
- promote in students an enjoyment of and lifelong interest in, literature"

Program of Studies

Following is a sample activity list:

Close passage analysis/commentary
Response Journaling
Short analysis and writing
Long fiction analysis
Poetry writing, presentation, and analysis
Portfolio work
Reader's Theatre

Individual and group student projects and/or anthology
Creative writing and critical writing
Oral commentary
Research
Representing activities
Tests and quizzes
Optional independent novel study

Course Objectives

1. To cultivate students' ability to develop creative and critical expression
2. To study literature both intensively and extensively in order to develop an appreciation of literary history and tradition.
3. To further develop and cultivate oral, writing, listening, reading, viewing and representing skills
4. To increase students' abilities to analyse critically, to think independently, and to evaluate intelligently in order to become more a more discriminating thinker
5. To help students enjoy good literature through both extensive and intensive study of representative works of the world's best writers

Text and Film Options:

Inside Stories I	Kirkland Davies eds
Literature and Media 10	Anderson, Barry, et. al
Canadian Writer's Handbook	Kirkland, Davies eds.
To Kill a Mockingbird (and film option)	Harper Lee
And/or	
Huckleberry Finn (and film option)	Mark Twain
And/Or Independent Novel Study	
Julius Caesar (and film option)	William Shakespeare
And/or	
A Midsummer Night's Dream (and film option)	William Shakespeare
And/or	
a different Shakespeare play	
Poetry in Focus	Cameron, Hogan, Lashmar eds.
And/Or	
Participating In A Poem	Weston Walsh pub.
Film Study (TBA)	

Course Evaluation

It is common for students' marks to fall approximately 10% from junior high to high school English courses. Students should not become discouraged if this happens; as the semester progresses and you become more comfortable with the expectations of high school, achievement will improve.

Students who are not prepared to complete the work expected for this course will be counselled into another program.

Midterm

homework assignments, checks and quizzes, tests, unit exams, essays and projects 75%
midterm exam - 25%

(midterm exam consists of a Part A essay component valued at 50% of the total midterm mark and a Part B multiple choice component valued at 50% of the midterm exam mark.)

Final

Homework assignments/checks and quizzes/tests/unit exams/essays/projects 65%
Midterm exam 10%
Final Exam 25%

(Final exam consists of a Part A essay component valued at 50% of the total final mark and a Part B component valued at 50% of the final exam mark.)

Course Overview*

1. The Essay:

As students of literature, we will bend and turn through several ideas and forms of writing. In this unit we will sample essays in various modes of expression and style, with a focus on insight, appreciation, analysis.

Options for study:

Speech of Acceptance - William Faulkner
My Secret Sin - Don Knowlton
Allegory of the Cave - Plato
A Note on the Essay - Carl Van Doren
I Have A Dream- Martin Luther King

2. Archetypes - Setting a foundation for literature study

An archetype is an original model on which something is patterned or based. The term is often used in literature, architecture and the arts to refer to something that goes back to the fundamentals of the art. We can discover archetypes by analyzing and understanding what is identified as the "collective unconscious." In this unit students will be introduced to the study of archetypes in through poetry and prose.
(may contain film study)

3. Short Story

We will explore international short stories from a personal and a critical perspective.

Options for study:

Just Lather That's All (Tellez)(handout)	Spanish
The Scarlet Ibis (Hurst) (handout)	American
The Sunrise on the Veldt (Lessing)(handout)	African

4. Novel Study: *To Kill a Mockingbird*

In this unit, we will travel into the deep southern United States during the 1930's. We will observe profound racial hostility through the eyes of an innocent young girl as she witnesses the intolerance of an isolated southern town.

AND/OR

The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn

The episodic novel *Huck Finn* has been hailed as *the* novel recreated in all subsequent American novels. Together we will travel along the Mississippi with Huck as he flees from the brutality of "civilized" society.

5. Greek Drama: *The Odyssey* adapted from Homer

The cultural, scientific, and political achievements of the Ancient Greeks form the bedrock of Western civilisation. Together we will study this adaptation of Homer's epic written between 800 - 700 BC.

6. Poetry and Shakespearean Study

We will study a cross-section of historical periods, themes, and types of poetry, with a focus on analysis, appreciation, and writing. Our unit will culminate with an indepth study of *Julius Caesar*, written by one of the greatest poets of all time, William Shakespeare. *Julius Caesar* ranks as a classic: political intrigue, assassination, and revenge are all set against the backdrop of the Roman Empire. We will read, observe and discuss the downfall of not one but two possible heros,

Midterm Exam Week:

Students will write a two part exam over two blocks (essay and multiple choice.)

7. Modern Drama: *Arms and the Man*

George Bernard Shaw is one of the great dramatists of the 20th century. In this comedic play, Shaw gently mocks the art of war and its attached romanticism. We will continue our study of poetry in this unit as well, by exploring poetry and art of the Romantic age.

8. Additional Shakespearean Study if possible: TBA

9. Film and Media Studies:

TBA

10. Review for Final Exam:

***Target dates are subject to change. Course selections and times may be need to be adjusted to coordinate with other classes.**