

## Course Name: English 11 Targeted

Duration:  1 Semester  Full Year

Grade Level:  9th  10th  11th  12th (check all that apply)

### Are there any prerequisites for the course?

English 10

### WHAT this course is about:

This course will help you become a better thinker and communicator. You will continue your English 9-10 skills in reading, writing, and speaking.

### WHY take this course:

You will read interesting texts (fiction, nonfiction, poetry, drama, visuals, and film), write different genres (argumentative, informational, and narrative), and continue to develop vocabulary.

### WHAT you'll learn:

You will practice reading closely and annotating text. You will continue to improve your own writing skills. You will also learn vocabulary.

### WHAT you'll do:

**Unit 1:** In this unit you will explore a variety of American voices and define what it is to be an American. If asked to describe the essence and spirit of America, you would probably refer to the American Dream. First coined as a phrase in 1931, the phrase “the American Dream” characterizes the unique promise that America has offered immigrants and residents for nearly 400 years. People have come to this country for adventure, opportunity, freedom, and the chance to experience the qualities of the American landscape.

**Unit 2:** The First Amendment safeguards Americans’ right to speak and think freely. Rapid changes in technology have put schools in uncharted territory as they consider the relationship between students’ free speech and social media. You will explore the First Amendment and the historical interpretation of students’ right to free speech at school. Ultimately, you will take a position on the question: “Should schools be able to discipline students for what they say on social media?”

**Unit 3:** You will be able to analyze how authors use the conventions of science fiction to comment on society. To demonstrate this skill, you will write an essay where they refer to texts from the unit as you argue which text’s critique is most relevant to today’s world. You will write strong explanations to clarify evidence, connect evidence to your argument, and analyze key diction.

**Unit 4:** This unit is anchored around one essential question: how do people and the environment affect each other? You will be able to articulate authors’ claims about humans’ impact on the environment and explain how each author develops those claims. To demonstrate this skill, you will write an essay that analyzes how your answer to the essential question has been changed or reinforced by the unit texts.

**WHERE this could take you:**

The skills and knowledge you gain will help you in your Senior year English courses.

**OPTIONAL Course Outline (“scope and sequence”, sequence chart, etc.)**

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