

English I, Form I

Course Objectives

- Review of parts of speech: Students will participate in an overview of terms and definitions designed to familiarize them with these building blocks of language and as a basis for more in-depth study. This serves to complement and precede the study of parts of speech in Latin I. Students will study nouns and their roles in sentences, as well as proper, plural and possessive forms.
- Students will study personal pronouns and their cases, interrogative, relative, demonstrative and compound personal pronouns (reflexive and intensive). Students will understand and appreciate how authors employ literary devices to convey meaning in their writing.
- Students will create narrative essays which convey their life experiences which parallel the short story study. Creative writing will involve crafting a short story with a student partner.
- Students will study the four principal parts of irregular verbs and fourteen different word tenses and how they impact meaning in writing. Students will also focus on voice, transitive and intransitive verbs, and helping verbs. Students will study adjectives, articles and adverbs and how they enhance description in our language. Students will study prepositions and their functions in language as connectors. The function of prepositional phrases as modifiers will also be studied.
- As a complement to their study of ancient history in their World Civilization course, students will read and English translation of *The Odyssey* and discussion will, among other topics, center upon the epic journey in the literary tradition.
- Students will read *Great Expectations* and study the novel's many themes and timeless lessons. Victorian literature, Victorian society and the life of Dickens will also be explored. Students will, in five paragraph form, express a grasp and appreciation of the epic and the novel, especially in thematic elements in both works.
- Students will explore the use of gerunds, participles and infinitives and the many roles they play in our language as nouns, adjectives and adverbs. Students will study the different parts of the sentence, different types of sentences, phrases and clauses, and the difference between complete sentences and fragments. Students will learn the analysis of sentence structure and traditional rules of sentence diagramming.
- Students will understand and appreciate how poetry impacts everyday life for those who study and enjoy it. Students will learn about the life of William Shakespeare and his impact on the English language and world literature. The canon of his work will be studied as well as Elizabethan vocabulary in preparation for reading *The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet*. An introduction to line scanning and iambic pentameter precedes the play. Students will create a poem and write a character analysis in five paragraph form about a character in *The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet*.
- Students will read *To Kill a Mockingbird* and study the historical context, the reliability of the first-person narrator, setting and thematic elements. Students will explore a historical reference in the text and write a research paper on the topic.

