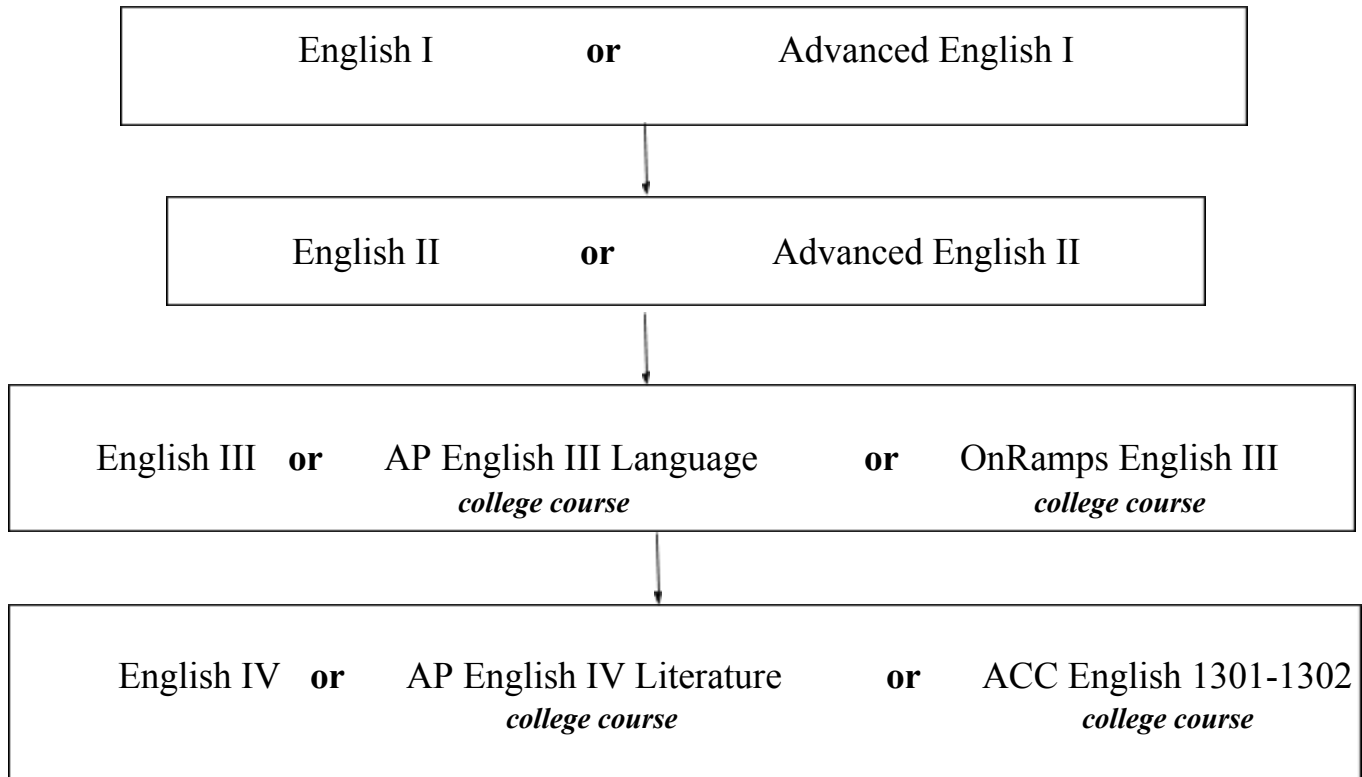


**JAMES BOWIE HIGH SCHOOL**  
**ENGLISH COURSE SEQUENCE**



**ENGLISH ELECTIVES**

*(these yearlong courses cannot replace any of the above)*

Creative Writing	Contemporary American Novel	True Crime	Graphic Novel	Science Fiction/Fantasy
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Debate 1, 2, 3, and 4	Oral Interpretation 1, 2, 3, and 4
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**ENGLISH I – GENRE STUDIES AND COMPOSITION**

- Close reading analysis
- Writing workshops
- Novels, plays, poetry, and non-fiction
- Preparation for STAAR test
- Teacher-selected (whole class) and self-selected (independent) literature

**ENGLISH I Advanced – GENRE STUDIES AND COMPOSITION**

**In addition to the components of English I listed above, pre-AP students have**

- A **required** Summer Reading Assignment will be turned in the first day of school
- A weighted course
- Reading and/or writing homework almost every block

**A successful Advanced student:**

- Is organized and has a strong work ethic
- Is eager to explore literature - both assigned and self-selected
- Is willing to participate in small group and class discussion
- Has mastered the components of clear, coherent writing
- Can handle increased pacing

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**ENGLISH II – WORLD LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION**

- Close reading analysis
- Writing workshops
- Novels, plays, poetry, and non-fiction
- Preparation for STAAR test
- Teacher-selected (whole class) and self-selected (independent) literature

**ENGLISH II Advanced – WORLD LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION**

**In addition to the components of English II listed above, pre-AP students have**

- A **required** Summer Reading Assignment will be turned in the first day of school
- A weighted course
- Reading and/or writing homework almost every block

**A successful Advanced student:**

- Is organized and has a strong work ethic
- Is eager to explore literature - both assigned and self-selected
- Is willing to participate in small group and class discussion
- Has mastered the components of clear, coherent writing
- Can handle increased pacing

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**ENGLISH III– AMERICAN LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION**

A chronological exploration of American literature: fiction, non-fiction, poetry, and drama

- Close reading analysis of literary elements
- Rhetorical analysis
- Strategies for different modes of composition
- SAT preparation

**AP ENGLISH III– LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION**

A college-level course with college-level expectations: write clearly and correctly, read critically, meet deadlines, and participate fully.

- A **required** Summer Reading Assignment will be turned in the first day of school
- Weighted dual credit yearlong course
- Reading and/or writing homework almost every block

- Challenging reading material that includes both fiction and nonfiction
- Discussion-based classes with AP test preparation; collaborative group work; college writing preparation
- Course content focuses on writing Synthesis, Rhetorical Analysis, and Argument essays
- College credit is earned by an optional AP exam in May; individual colleges determine number of credits awarded based on AP exam score. A 3 on the exam usually earns 3 college credit hours.

Works of fiction include: *The Scarlet Letter*, *Moby-Dick*, *The Great Gatsby* and *1984*

### UT ON-RAMPS RHETORIC/ ENGLISH III

A college-level course with college-level expectations - write clearly and correctly, read critically, meet deadlines, and participate fully

- No Summer Reading requirement
- Weighted dual credit yearlong course
- Reading and writing homework almost every block
- Analysis of nonfiction texts, argumentative writing, media and visual arts pieces (no fiction or poetry or drama)
- Discussion-based classes, cooperative group work, and UT Canvas platform content with college writing preparation and practice
- College-length essays in Synthesis, Rhetorical Analysis, Annotated Bibliography, and Researched Argument

A series of papers each semester, graded by UT college professors, determines the student’s overall college grade and earned college credit - up to 6 college credit hours. (*OnRamps credits may not transfer to private institutions and Ivy League schools.*)

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### ENGLISH IV

A chronological exploration of British literature - fiction, non-fiction, poetry, and drama

- Close reading analysis of literary elements
- Rhetorical analysis
- Strategies for different modes of composition
- Focus on college and career readiness
- TSI and SAT preparation

### AP ENGLISH IV – LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

A college-level course with college-level expectations - write clearly and correctly, read critically, meet deadlines, and participate fully

- A **required** Summer Reading Assignment will be turned in the first day of school
- Weighted dual credit yearlong course
- Reading and/or writing homework almost every block
- Challenging reading material focused on fiction: prose, poetry, and drama (no nonfiction)
- Discussion-based classes; collaborative group work; college writing preparation; AP test preparation
- Course content focuses on writing literary analysis of novels and plays, excerpted prose passages, and poetry
- College credit is earned by an optional AP exam in May; individual colleges determine number of credits awarded based on AP exam score. A 3 on the exam usually earns 3 college credit hours.

### ACC ENGLISH 1301-1302

A college-level course with college-level expectations - write clearly and correctly, read critically, meet deadlines, and participate fully

- No Summer Reading requirement
- Weighted dual credit yearlong course
- Reading and writing homework almost every block
- Focused on the principles of composition with an emphasis on language, proper mechanics and grammar, types of discourse, and research and documentation.
- Essays include literary analysis, rhetoric analysis, and research
- Literature includes nonfiction, novel, drama, and poetry study
- Can earn up to 6 ACC credit hours

## ENGLISH ELECTIVES

### Creative Writing

Creative and Imaginative Writing, a rigorous composition course, asks students to demonstrate their skill in such forms of writing as essays, short stories, poetry, and drama/ screenwriting. All students are expected to demonstrate an understanding of the writing process. The student's evaluation of his/her own writing as well as the writing of others insures that students completing this course are able to analyze and discuss published and unpublished pieces of writing, develop and apply criteria for effective writing, and set their own goals as writers.

- Open to juniors and seniors only.
- Honors level yearlong elective course (weighted)
- We will read and write every single day. You must love both to enjoy this class.
- Our classroom is run mostly on a workshop model, which means you will share your work with classmates and critique one another's work. You must be prepared to share work and criticism in a mature, constructive manner.
- Members of this class will have the opportunity to publish work in the school's literary magazine *Odyssey* and I generally choose members of Creative Writing for editor positions on the magazine, which is awesome for college applications and/ or real-world, hands on experience in publishing.
- At the end of the year, we may be working with the Austin Film festival on a screen writing unit. (It's not guaranteed every year, but we started this year and hope to continue our partnership).

Students signing up for this course should have a B or better average in their previous English Language Arts course to be successful.

### Literary Genres: Contemporary American Novel

This class examines a wide selection of contemporary American fiction, focusing on the novel. We examine the historic, aesthetic, and social implications, values, and characteristics of the canon. The classroom objectives center on the reading of a range of American fiction written during the past twenty years, supplemented by theoretical and critical readings that explore related issues. The class examines what the contemporary American novel reveals about various aspects of today's culture and the issues that surround it. Our readings reflect the diversity and richness of current American authors.

- Open to 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students
- Honors level yearlong elective course (weighted)
- Students usually have around 10-15 pages of reading homework plus answering reading guides per block.
- Each 6 weeks' grading period will focus on a novel (6 novels total throughout the year). The first 5 grading periods will focus on a teacher selection; the 6<sup>th</sup> 6 weeks will be student-choice from a specified list.
- Socratic Seminars, group presentations, oral reports, projects (many of which require the aid of technology), class and group discussions, etc.

### Literary Genres: True Crime

This class will delve into the true crime genre through various mediums, such as books, podcasts, documentaries, and research. True crime, as a genre, is the examination of the facts of real cases through storytelling. We will do case specific deep dives, through research and media, to examine the cases themselves and how they are presented to the public. Coursework will include writing throughout, some of which will be focused on research, reflection, and the cases we'll be studying. Additionally, we will use our time together to examine and discuss what has made this genre so popular throughout history.

- Open to juniors and seniors only
- Honors level yearlong elective course (weighted)
- Some reading, writing, and research will likely occur outside of class
- Elements of coursework will include: self-selected texts (books, podcasts), collaborative activities, whole class texts and discussions, research, and writing assignments. Most assignments and projects will incorporate technology in some capacity.
- Due to the nature of the topics we will be discussing and researching, please check to see that your parents/guardians are comfortable with your enrollment.

## Graphic Novel Studies

In this course, students will read, analyze, and interpret a selection of historical non-fiction graphic novels and complete an intensive, semester-long research project on a current societal dilemma.

- Open to juniors and seniors who enjoy reading and history
- Honors level yearlong elective course (weighted)
- Students should expect to read and actively participate in discussions every day.
- We will read four graphic novels as a class, and you will choose two others to read with your peers in literary circles.
  - As a group, we will read:
    - *Maus* volumes I and II - Jewish perspective in World War II Poland;
    - *Persepolis* volumes I and II - young Iranian girl's perspective of 1970's Iran
  - Lit. circles will choose two from the following:
    - *They Called Us Enemy* - Japanese-American perspective on Japanese internment camps in World War II America;
    - *Paying the Land* - American Indian perspective on the mining and development of the American Pacific Northwest;
    - *March* - John Lewis's perspective as a black activist in America;
    - *The Best We Could Do* - Vietnam War refugee perspective on emigrating with her family
    - *Poppies of Iraq* - Perspective from an Orthodox Christian Iraqi girl
- Project Details:
  - This is an advanced research project that will have very specific requirements.
  - Students will choose an "American Dilemma" to research over the course of the spring semester.
  - The project will conclude with a professional presentation at the end of the year.
- This course is an opportunity for students to examine a variety of stories and connect with each other and other cultural perspectives. In addition to gaining literary insight and factual knowledge of historical and current events, students who take this course will learn valuable, practical research skills.

## Literary Genres: Science Fiction and Fantasy

This course is a survey of Sci-Fi and Fantasy. Fall Semester focuses on fantasy through the lens of J.R.R. Tolkien and how fantasy reveals elements of the human psyche. Spring Semester focuses on Science Fiction and scientific ethics.

- Open to juniors and seniors only
- Honors level yearlong elective course (weighted)
- Must have ability to time manage , complete all assignments , and think independently as well as work in a team setting.
- Most of the reading is done in class.
- In-class writing assignments as well as major group projects.
- If you had a strong B or above in English II or III, you should do fine.