

# LANGUAGE ARTS

## **PHLA101 English 1**

**Level: 9**  
**Credit: 1 unit**

This course is founded on the premise that students will develop clear, effective thinking and writing skills through the study of literature. English 1 is designed to introduce students to the elements of fiction, and to a variety of literary genres by a wide range of authors. Particular attention is paid to historical and contemporary content connected to students' lives. Major works include *Romeo and Juliet*, *Warriors Don't Cry*, *The Odyssey*, and *When the Legends Die*. Interactive communication skills will be developed through class discussion and cooperative learning activities. Students will write descriptive, imaginative, expository, and analytical pieces. Students will develop the ability to analyze literature in terms of literary devices such as plot, conflict, characterization, setting, theme and symbols.

## **PHLA201 English 2** **Prerequisite: English 1**

**Level: 10**  
**Credit: 1 unit**

This course is founded on the premise that students will continue to develop clear, effective thinking and writing skills through the study of literature. English 2 will stress knowledge of the elements of fiction and nonfiction literature, as well as the characteristics of the various genres of literature organized by thematic units. Students will read for inference, recognition of literary genre, and the qualities of good literature. Students will also be introduced to the research process, and will complete a *research project*. Assignments are designed to strengthen students' skills in the following areas: critical thinking, reading for understanding, writing effective essays, and responding to essay questions. Instruction in sentence variety, vocabulary acquisition, application of literary terminology, usage, spelling, and punctuation is included. Interactive speaking and listening skills will be further developed through class discussion and learning activities.

## **PHLA301 English 3** **Prerequisite: English 2**

**Level: 11**  
**Credit: 1 unit**

This course is founded on the premise that students will continue to develop clear, effective thinking and writing skills through the study of literature. English 3 is designed to encourage students to discover ideas, beliefs, and values of Americans from the Puritans to modern society. The course work follows Americans' changing relationships and attitudes by surveying literature written over a period of approximately two hundred years. Several literary schools of thought will be read, discussed, and analyzed as background for understanding contemporary America. Major works include *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, *The Crucible*, *A Raisin in the Sun*, *The Scarlet Letter*, and *The Great Gatsby*. Class activities include discussion, group study and presentation, and close reading of the texts. Emphasis will be placed on developing skills for analyzing literature through discussion and writing assignments. Students will

investigate each of the following styles of writing: narrative, informative, argumentative, analytical, and expository.

**PHLA303 American Studies/English 3**  
**Prerequisite: English 2**

**Level: 11**  
**Credit: 2 units**

American Studies is founded on the philosophy that students create a better understanding of American culture through the integrated study of literature and history. The course is designed to investigate significant events, ideas, and values in America from colonial times to modern society. The content of this course is the same as the individual English 3 and American History courses—only the approach is different. This approach creates new opportunities for students to expand learning, such as field trips and project-based assessments. Because this a double credit course, students meet every day and the class is team-taught with teachers from the English and Social Studies department. Therefore, enroll in American Studies/History **and** American Studies/English 3.

**PHLA401 English 4 College Prep**  
**Prerequisite: English 3**

**Level: 12**  
**Credit: 1 unit**

(concurrent credit through Fort Scott Community College is available)

This course is founded on the premise that students will continue developing clear, effective thinking and writing skills through the study of literature. English 4 College Prep offers an intensive study of British literature and the writing skills necessary for college level work in any academic area. Students will read, analyze, and discuss authors and literary works from a social, historical, and cultural perspective. Writing will include expository, persuasive, and analytical pieces. Additionally, students will be required to read at least one novel outside of class each quarter. Students should expect homework almost every night. This course is recommended for any student who plans to pursue an undergraduate degree from a four year college.

**PHLA402 English 4**  
**Prerequisite: English 3**

**Level: 12**  
**Credit: 1 unit**

This course is designed for students who plan to go on to technical/vocational school, pursue an associate's degree from a community college, or go directly from high school into the work force. It is also designed to suit the needs of a wide-range of ability levels. This course includes some important British literature as well as literature related to the workplace. This course integrates academic and workplace writing skills. Seniors who successfully complete this course will acquire the skills necessary to successfully complete any college level English class offered at a community college or vocational/technical school.

**PHLA305 Public Speaking****Level: 11–12  
Credit: ½ unit**

(concurrent credit through Fort Scott Community College is available)

Public speaking is a one-semester course designed to improve the student's oral communication skills in platform speaking situations. The course begins with an in-depth study of the nature of communication and then seeks to apply this knowledge to the performance skills of the students in various communication situations. After lecture and discussion sessions over each skill area, the student performs exercises designed to develop the particular skill being studied. Participation in activities and performance in front of others is required for successful completion of the course. Any student who plans to pursue an undergraduate degree from a four year college should enroll in this course.

**PHLA103 Debate****Level: 9-12  
Credit: ½ unit**

Debate focuses on skills required to debate: public speaking, logical thinking, creative thinking, writing and research skills, persuasive speaking, and organizational skills. Students will study the National High School Debate Resolution for that year. Participation in extracurricular debate tournaments, which are held on Saturdays and some Fridays, is required, along with working the Paola Invitational Debate Tournament, including the recruitment of community judges. Debate requires discipline, the willingness to compete, a certain degree of intellectual curiosity and ability, and a considerable amount of independent reading on the current topic. Any student enrolled must meet KSHSAA eligibility requirements.

**PHLA154 Forensics****Level: 9-12  
Credit: ½ unit**

Forensics is a second semester class that focuses on the development of speaking and oral interpretation skills. Participation in extracurricular forensics tournaments, which are held on Saturdays, is required. Within the class the student will prepare and present extemporaneous speeches as well as one of the other speaking events. The student may also prepare events in the oral interpretation and acting areas, but these are in addition to the required course elements and may not replace them. Not all of these events will be presented in competition. Any student enrolled must meet KSHSAA eligibility requirements.