

## English I Foundations

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course is designed as an introductory Language Arts course. The emphasis in this course is on the multiple types of Mass Media our students encounter on a daily basis. Emphasis is made on a variety of “real world” reading and writing skills.

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

After completing the course, students will be able to:

- Understand and apply the understood conventions in email and discussion board etiquette
- Practice internet safety
- Edit their writing for common writing errors including capitalization, commonly confused words, quotation marks and commas
- Complete peer review and self editing exercises
- Write in a variety of genres including letters, advertisements, email, short fiction, poetry, research, persuasive and other analytical essays
- Analyze various media including advertisements, news articles, political cartoons and editorials
- Understand persuasive techniques including glittering generalities, bandwagon, and the appearance of science
- Read and analyze a variety of literature including the short story, novel, poetry and drama
- Understand a variety of poetic and literary devices
- Use research skills to complete a research project

**PREREQUISITES:** None

**COURSE LENGTH:** Two semesters

**REQUIRED SOFTWARE:** None

### **COURSE OUTLINE:**

#### **Semester One**

##### **Course Introduction**

Course Structure and Navigation  
Diagnostic Writing and Reading Evaluation

##### **Mass Media: Internet Communication**

Email, Discussion Boards and Internet Safety  
Writing for a Purpose

##### **Mass Media: Getting the News**

Identifying Bias  
Journalistic Objectivity  
Comparison of Different News Sources  
News Sources  
Comparing News Sources

## English I Foundations (continued)

### COURSE OUTLINE (continued):

#### Mass Media: Offering Opinions

- Supporting an Opinion
- Persuasive Essay
- Letters to the Editor
- Organizing the Paragraph and Essay

#### Mass Media: Advertising

- Persuasive Techniques
- Editing for Strong Word Choices
- Writing Advertisements

#### Semester Conclusion

- Editing for a Polished Finished Essay
- Peer Reviewing
- Avoiding Comma Errors

### Semester Two

#### Course Introduction

- Course Structure and Navigation
- Diagnostic Writing and Reading Evaluation

#### Reading Strategies

- Isolating Effective Reading Strategies
- Writing Strong Introductions and Conclusions
- Editing Common Errors
- Improving Reading Comprehension
- Writing the Friendly Letter

#### Reading-Short Fiction

- Identifying Elements of Plot
- Avoiding Sentence Fragments
- Composing Original Short Story

#### Reading-Long Fiction

- Reading the Novel
- Identifying Theme
- Creating variety in sentence structure
- Identifying pronoun-antecedent agreement

#### Reading-Lyric Poetry

- Reading a Variety of Lyric Poems
- Identifying Poetic Devices
- Writing and Revising the Business Letter
- Using the Apostrophe

#### Reading-Drama

- Reading-Romeo and Juliet
- Comparing and Contrasting-Analytical Essay
- Writing in the Active and Passive Voice
- Viewing a Cinematic Version of Romeo and Juliet

#### Research-Consumer Issue

- Identifying Wise Consumer Choices
- Incorporating a Variety of Data into Text Formats
- Documenting Sources
- Using Appropriate Citation Formats
- Avoiding Plagiarism

#### Semester Conclusion

- Editing for a Polished Finished Essay
- Peer Reviewing
- Avoiding Common Errors