English II builds upon students' foundation of critical reading and analytical writing skills. Through texts that range from investigative journalism, essays, articles, and historical documents to short stories, drama, and poetry, students analyze the use of elements in literature and nonfiction. As they develop their writing skills and respond to ideas, students learn to refine arguments and organize evidence to support their position. To hone their listening and speaking skills, students engage with a variety of media types through which they analyze and synthesize information, discuss material, create presentations, and share their work.

English II supports all students in developing the depth of understanding and higher order skills required by the TEKS. Students break down increasingly complex readings with close reading tools, guided instruction, and robust scaffolding as they apply each of the lesson's concepts back to its anchor text. Students build their writing and speaking skills in journal responses, discussions, frequent free response exercises, and written assignments and presentations, learning to communicate clearly and credibly in literary, argumentative, and informational styles.

This course is built to fulfill the 2017 English Language Arts and Reading, English II TEKS.

Length: Two Semesters

Unit 1: The Written Word

- Persuasive Prose
- Narrative Prose
- Wrap Up: The Written Word

Unit 2: The Story

- Plot
- Character
- Description
- Wrap Up: The Story

Unit 3: Literary Criticism

- Theme
- Poetry and Figurative Language
- Context
- Wrap Up: Literary Criticism

Unit 4: The Research Paper

- Finding Support
- Using Sources
- Revision

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- Wrap Up: The Research Paper

Unit 5: Wrap Up

Unit 6: Practical Documents

- Organization
- Formal Letters
- Wrap Up: Practical Documents

Unit 7: Persuasive Texts

- Tone
- The Medium
- Purpose
- Wrap Up: Persuasive Texts

Unit 8: The Speech

- Speech Analysis
- Speechwriting
- Moving an Audience
- Wrap Up: The Speech

Unit 9: Researched Argumentation

- Claims, Reasons, and Evidence
- Counter-Arguments
- Revision, Proofreading, and Peer Evaluation
- Wrap Up: Researched Argumentation

Unit 10: Wrap Up

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