

English as a Second Language Course Sequence

Middle School Courses: SSM Middle School ESL courses are designed to provide the English language support and instruction students need to successfully move into mainstream English and History classes. Students are placed according to ability.

- Middle School ESL Academic Reading and Writing I
- Middle School ESL Academic Reading and Writing II
- Middle School ESL Academic Reading and Writing III
- Middle School Introduction to Historical Studies I
- Middle School Introduction to Historical Studies II

Graduation Requirements: Upper School ESL classes can be used to help fulfill the 12 credits required for graduation; however, students must exit ESL and complete one full year in mainstream English prior to graduation. Upper School Introduction to Historical Studies does fulfill the US History graduation requirement.

Required Courses:

- Varies depending on placement testing.

***Students must complete one year of mainstream English to graduate.**

Upper School Courses: All Upper School ESL courses are full-year classes with the exception of ESL Seminar; students may exit Seminar mid-year if they demonstrate adequate proficiency to work in a mainstream course without additional ESL support.

- Academic Reading and Writing II
- Academic Reading and Writing III
- ESL Seminar
- Introduction to Historical Studies

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

Our comprehensive ESL program offers a variety of ESL courses to nurture the further development of English speaking, reading, listening, and writing and to help students develop academic and conversational English. ESL placement is determined via a myriad of measurements and assessments, and ESL courses come with additional tuition fees. The ESL Program (6th - 12th grade) has a variety of tracks, depending on the student's English level and placement test. All ESL classes are year-long with the exception of the Seminar class; some students exit ESL Seminar mid-year. English credit is granted for ESL, but all students must exit ESL and complete one year of mainstream English to meet graduation requirements. To help students achieve this requirement, a summertime extension, the Shattuck –St. Mary's Summer English Institute, is sometimes required for selected students.

Middle School ESL Academic Reading and Writing I

This class is offered to Middle School students with low to intermediate English proficiency. The goal is twofold: to support all ESL students' enrollment in mathematics, science, and history classes; and to further and foster the development of academic and conversational English. The course focuses on reading comprehension strategies, vocabulary, grammar, and various types of academic writing, beginning with the simple sentence.

Requirements: Selected core course readings; 5 formal Spring term writing exercises; 1 PowerPoint; 2 oral presentations; and a Spring term project or exam. A Spring term TOEFL itp test, overall academic progress, and a Spring Term writing assessment are used to determine placement into the next level of ESL or for ESL exit.

Middle School ESL Academic Reading and Writing II

This class is offered to Middle School students with intermediate English proficiency. The course focuses on reading comprehension strategies, vocabulary, grammar, and various types of academic writing, beginning with the simple sentence and ending with the academic essay. The academic paragraph and content-response to instructional prompts is stressed.

Requirements: Selected readings; 5-7 formal writing exercises per term; 1 PowerPoint presentation; 3 oral presentations; 1 major project; term exams and final exam. A Spring term TOEFL itp test, overall academic progress, and a Spring Term writing assessment are used to determine placement into the next level of ESL or for ESL exit..

Middle School ESL Academic Reading and Writing III

This class is offered to intermediate and advanced ESL students to nurture proficiency in reading, writing, speaking and listening. The course focuses on reading comprehension strategies, vocabulary, grammar, and various types of academic writing. Further, academic, active, reasoned, rhetorical debate and discussion is nurtured and rewarded.

Requirements: Selected readings; 5-7 formal writing exercises per term; 1 PowerPoint presentation; 1 oral presentation; 1 short research paper; term exams; and a final exam. A Spring term TOEFL itp test, overall academic progress, and a Spring Term writing assessment are used to determine placement into the next level of ESL or for ESL exit.

Middle School Introduction to Historical Studies I

This survey class offers students a preview of American, ancient, and European history, using selected textbook readings. In addition, the class covers Minnesota history to give students an understanding of their new homes. Designed to offer low to intermediate English proficient students the opportunity to learn about history in a sheltered environment, this class is a full survey class and includes fostered development of note-taking, listening, reading, and academic discussion. MS Introduction to Historical Studies I is offered to 6th through 9th grade first-year students only. Entrance is not elective.

Requirements: Selected readings; 5-7 writing exercises per term; class presentations; map quizzes; reading assessments; 1 major project; term exams and a final exam.

Middle School Introduction to Historical Studies II

Introduction to Historical Studies introduces low to intermediate proficient English language learners to United States History while developing English language skills and historical studies skills. The students will begin with the earliest Americans and travel through United States History up to, but not limited to, the Civil Rights era. While studying the content students will concentrate on utilizing primary sources to contextualize, corroborate, source, and critically think about the continuity and change of the human experience throughout the history of the United States. Assessments will include a variety of activities with a variety of sources. Students will be asked to take Cornell Notes, engage in discussion, collaborate with peers, perform presentations, write academically, research, complete quizzes, tests, and final exams, as well as learn content specific vocabulary and analyze primary sources. MS Introduction to Historical Studies II is offered to 7th through 9th grade students enrolled in ESL English. Entrance is not elective.

ESL Academic Reading and Writing II – Upper School

This English class is designed to answer the needs of students whose academic English is actively developing and needs intensive and focused support at the low-intermediate to intermediate level. Sustained silent reading is a major component of this class. Fall term is dedicated to the immediate building of math, science, and history vocabulary and academic study skills. Throughout the course, students will read a wide variety of texts, including fiction, non-fiction, and poetry. Reading strategies are explicitly taught and rehearsed to encourage deeper reading comprehension. Vocabulary and grammar instruction is integrated into reading and writing activities. The writing focus of ESL Academic English II is on the development of sentences, paragraphs, and the essay. Speaking and listening are practiced in large and small group discussions and through oral presentations.

Requirements: Selected readings; 5-7 written works per term; 1 oral presentation; term assessments; and a final exam. A Spring Term TOEFL iTP test, overall academic progress, and a Spring Term writing assessment are used to determine placement into the next level of ESL or for ESL exit.

ESL Academic Reading and Writing III – Upper School

This class is offered to students at an advanced intermediate level of English proficiency in the areas of reading, writing, speaking, and listening. The course focuses on using academic English to understand, analyze, and evaluate ideas explored through reading, writing, class discussion, and other activities. Academic, active, reasoned, rhetorical debate and discussion are nurtured. Students receive significant individualized feedback to support the development of their language skills, with an emphasis on academic reading and writing.

Requirements: Selected readings; 5-7 formal writing exercises per term; 1 oral presentation; 1 research paper; term assessments; and a final exam. A spring term TOEFL test, overall academic progress, teacher recommendation, and a Spring Term writing assessment are used to determine placement, including exit from the program.

ESL Seminar – Upper School

This full-year tutorial course focuses on each student's weaknesses in order to best support him or her at S-SM. ESL Seminar is a companion class for students who have been given entrance to World Literature. Focus is on writing the well-developed essay, but also stresses mastery of grammar, syntax, diction, and semantics. Students who have exited ESL may not use this class as a substitute for an English class. At the discretion of the Academic Dean, a previously exited student may be required to enroll.

Introduction to Historical Studies – Upper School

Introduction to Historical Studies introduces low to intermediate proficient English language learners to United States History while developing English language skills and historical studies skills. The students will begin with the earliest Americans and travel through United States History up to, but not limited to, the Civil Rights era. While studying the content students will concentrate on utilizing primary sources to contextualize, corroborate, source, and critically think about the continuity and change of the human experience throughout the history of the United States. Assessments will include a variety of activities with a variety of sources. Students will be asked to take Cornell Notes, engage in discussion, collaborate with peers, perform presentations, write academically, research, complete quizzes, tests, and final exams, as well as learn content specific vocabulary and analyze primary sources.