

# ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### What is the average class size?

For the first two years of English, class sizes normally range from 15 to 20 students. Junior and senior level classes tend to range from 10 to 18 students.

### Is there student tracking or placement?

All incoming freshmen will complete a summer reading and essay response to familiarize the department with their current reading comprehension and essay composition skills. Students are grouped together by shared strengths and challenges, but the curriculum is the same for all freshmen. Incoming students whose summer work exhibits superior reading and writing courses may be placed in American Literature.

### Do you offer Honors or Advanced Placement credit courses?

Yes. Advanced Placement Literature is available to qualifying seniors.

### What type of work can be expected day-to-day in an English course?

The majority of English courses are run in a discussion-based, seminar style. Students should expect nightly reading, daily reading quizzes and discussion, supplementary writing work, as well as a quarterly essay.

### What is "What-How-Why"?

"What-How-Why" is an analytical methodology used in all English classes to help develop a student's close reading ability, interpretive skills, and essay writing.

### Is there any formal ACT or SAT preparation in an English course?

No; however, students score well above the state and national averages in verbal and reading comprehension testing.

*Full list of course offerings at [chicagoacademyforthearts.org/english-department](http://chicagoacademyforthearts.org/english-department)*

