



SOPHOMORE ENGLISH

English is a core subject at ACGA and builds on all the language competencies from the previous year. The introduction of American and British Literature as independent classes, strengthen their speaking and writing classes. Sophomores have six classroom hours of English and are expected to be a minimum of A2 English at the start of the year. English classes focus more on production and include longer projects, presentations, and essays.

Sophomore English is divided based on targeted language skills and includes the following:

Language—Second year English students build on their foundation of the language by studying more advanced tenses, such as Past Perfect Continuous, and the always difficult conditional and mixed conditional structures. We also continue to build their vocabulary, especially relevant to conversational topics, such as relationships, health, and government. Students will work out of the 4th Ahead With English book throughout the year to study grammar, vocabulary, phrasal verbs, prepositions, and word formation.

Speaking— Second year speaking students focus on a deeper dive into prepared public speaking. Their first speech is the more conversational demonstrative speech, in which students use props to teach their peers a new skill. We then study the strategies and structures of informative speeches through extensive writing and practice.

Writing—This year students write a compare and contrast essay. The skills learned in the process are essay outlining, creating thesis statements, literary analysis, and in-text citation. We go step by step to learn how to write each paragraph of the essay and how to connect it all to guide the reader along. We also develop peer evaluation skills to help with receiving and giving constructive feedback.

American Literature— This course covers American literature from the Colonial era up to the American Civil War. The major movements of American literature will be introduced via texts by Anne Bradstreet, Thoreau, Emerson, Whitman, Emily Dickinson, Herman Melville, and Nathaniel Hawthorne. Students will be able to identify and discuss the themes of these works.

British Literature – This course builds on the basics from Freshmen year and extends from the beginnings of English and Beowulf through to Chaucer, Shakespeare, Donne, Pope, and the reading of Gulliver's Travels in graded reader form. Students will gain the vocabulary necessary to describe and explain many types of literature which will prepare them for our Maturita examination.