

2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR

BELOVED ELA CURRICULUM

HIGH SCHOOL



MISSION STATEMENT

At its core, the mission of the BelovED High School English Language Arts Department is to provide a comprehensive curriculum that is based upon research and best practices, ensuring that students become critical thinkers, proficient readers, expressive writers and effective communicators in order to promote the literacy skills and concepts required for success in an ever-evolving global and technological world.

DEPARTMENT GOALS

BelovED's High School curriculum is designed to ensure that students read and understand a variety of complex texts across multiple genres such as poetry, myths, realistic fiction, historical fiction, speeches, dramas, literary criticism, letters, articles, short stories, and more. These varied texts allow students to encounter new perspectives, rethink ideas, and deepen their knowledge of contemporary and classic literature.

Our goal is to provide students with quality, rigorous instruction that encourages them to become critical and creative thinkers through culturally relevant texts and learning experiences that help them gain the competencies needed to become change agents within their larger communities.

GRADE LEVEL THEMES

	9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade (I)	11th Grade	AP Language
Unit 1	Visibility vs. Invisibility	Identity & Belonging	Identity & Belonging	Individualism vs. Collectivism	Gender & Behavior
Unit 2	Intelligence vs. Ignorance	The American Dream	Community & Loyalty	Memory & Nostalgia	Violence, Forgiveness, & Justice
Unit 3	Insider/ Outsider Status	Power & Corruption	Justice & Forgiveness	Individual & Social Fabric	Women, Motherhood, & Gender Roles
Unit 4	Identity & Belonging	Isolationism & Alienation	Mental Health	Women, Motherhood, & Gender Roles	Poverty & Survival
Unit 5	The Personal vs. The Political	Suffering & Community Identity		Subverting Societal Norms	Ambition & Violence
Unit 6	Gender & Misogyny	The Complexity of Human Nature		Tradition & Change	Innocence vs. Experience
Unit 7	Love & Personal Growth			Social Transformation	Politics & Power
Unit 8				The American Dream	Subverting Societal Norms
Unit 9					Gender & Sexuality

Every grade level has an overarching theme that will be at the core of values, curriculum and discussions in the classroom. These themes allow us to help students find their own voice and value system that leads them to becoming contributing members of society in their own ways.

SUPPORTING OUR STUDENTS

Keeping in mind the varied learning abilities and differentiation students need, we try our best to cater to every student by employing different learning models and techniques.

STUDENT SUPPORTS

- In-Class Conferencing
- Gradual Release Model
- Embedded Social and Emotional Learning
- Small Group Intervention
- Honors and AP Level Courses

As a result of being part of the BelovED Community Charter High School Academy-- through reading, writing, speaking, and listening-- students will effectively and independently:

- Comprehend a range of texts and media by comparing and contrasting
- Communicate ideas while responding to varying demands
- Generate questions and seek answers through critical analyses of text and media
- Seek understanding of themselves and others
- Embrace lifelong learning and reading for enjoyment
- Develop a critical eye and appreciation for the written word

READING INSTRUCTION

We intend to encourage all our Scholars to read widely across both fiction and non-fiction to develop their knowledge of themselves and the world in which they live, to establish an appreciation and love of reading, and to gain expertise across content areas to become well-rounded, well-read citizens.

To that affect, our curriculum:

- Requires the reader to go deeper into the text in order to understand its structure, form, interconnectivity of ideas, message, goals, and intertextuality in order to explore the text at a deeper level
- Aims to develop an understanding of the overall literal meaning of the text along with developing a strong sense of how texts and various media forms are connected
- Necessitates that students grapple with the text to unravel the themes, motifs, and goals, and to extrapolate these ideas to connect the text not only to others like it but to the world around them

"It is what you read
when you don't have to
that determines what
you will be when you
can't help it."

--Oscar Wilde

WRITING INSTRUCTION

Writing every day helps students express and support their ideas. The Writing curriculum-- created using *The Writing Revolution*-- provides a student-centered framework that helps children write daily and purposefully. Minilessons focus on teaching explicit skills that align to writing standards, ensuring that students begin at the sentence-level to perfect their written expression.

By growing the whole writer, students not only learn to effectively communicate their ideas, but also understand and interpret the ideas of scholars and authors they read. Students learn that writing is not just a task they do for a grade, but a necessary lifelong skill.

Teachers use the following models to shape all writing activities:

- **Writing in Response** to reading consists of exercises, embedded in the context of the reading, that seek to develop students as analytical writers within the context of the day's text(s)
- **Formative writing** consists of exercises that let students use writing as a tool to develop and expand their thinking
- **Summative writing** asks students to develop writing that explains and provides evidence for a sophisticated argument about a text

CURRICULUM SCOPE & SEQUENCE

Scholar development in reading and writing is supported throughout the year via novel studies. The following novels will be analyzed and discussed in the 21-22 school year:

	9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade (I)	11th Grade	AP Language
Unit 1	Short Stories	Short Stories	<i>The Hate U Give</i>	Short Stories	<i>The Glass Menagerie</i>
Unit 2	<i>Fahrenheit 451</i>	<i>The Great Gatsby - Passing</i> Pairing	<i>The Last Lawyer - I Am Troy Davis</i> Pairing	<i>The Glass Menagerie</i>	<i>Persepolis</i>
Unit 3	<i>Of Mice and Men</i>	<i>The Crucible</i>	<i>Speak</i>	<i>A Doll's House</i>	<i>The Handmaid's Tale</i>
Unit 4	<i>The Leavers</i>	<i>Frankenstein - Destroyer</i> Pairing	<i>The Perks of Being a Wallflower</i>	<i>The Handmaid's Tale</i>	<i>Angela's Ashes</i>
Unit 5	<i>The Poet X</i>	<i>Sula</i>		<i>The God of Small Things</i>	<i>Random Family</i>
Unit 6	<i>Taming of the Shrew</i>	<i>Macbeth</i>		<i>Waiting</i>	<i>In Cold Blood</i>
Unit 7	<i>Born a Crime</i>			<i>Dreaming in Cuban</i>	<i>All the King's Men</i>
Unit 8				<i>Between the World and Me</i>	<i>The God of Small Things</i>
Unit 9					<i>Cat on a Hot Tin Roof</i>