

# Sports and Literature Course Overview

Content Area: **English/Language Arts**  
Course(s): **SPORTS AND LITERATURE**  
Time Period:  
Length: **Quarter Course**  
Status: **Published**

## **COVER**

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### **EAST BRUNSWICK PUBLIC SCHOOLS** East Brunswick New Jersey

**Superintendent of Schools**  
Dr. Victor P. Valeski

**ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS**  
**Sports and Literature**  
Course No. 1030

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## Course Overview

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Sports and Literature will channel the passion that many high school students have for sports and use it to develop them into strong readers (of mainly non-fiction texts) and strong writers (of mainly analytic essays). The broad and complex role of sports in contemporary America provides a common intellectual ground for students of different grades, interests and ability levels. Likewise, they will become better readers through exposure to challenging texts of various lengths and better writers through constant exposure to several of the rhetorical modes (such as narration, definition, comparison and process analysis).

## Course Scope and Sequence

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Unit	Theme	Time
1	The American Sports Hero (Joe DiMaggio)	2 weeks
2	The Glory Days of New York Baseball (The Boys of Summer)	2 weeks
3	The High School Athlete of Today (Friday Night Lights)	2 weeks
4	The Economics of Professional Sports (Moneyball, The Blind Side)	2 weeks
5	Niche Sports (Chess Prodigy Bobby Fischer)	1 week
6	The One and Only (Muhammad Ali)	1 week

\*\*\*Newsela is available for differentiated reading assignments.

\*\*\*\*The district has a license for [Learning Ally](#). Learning Ally is an audio book resource for students who are unable to “eye read” grade level text but are able to comprehend when “ear reading” or listening.

## Standards

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LA.L.11-12.1	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.
LA.L.11-12.6	Acquire and use accurately general academic and domain-specific words and phrases, sufficient for reading, writing, speaking, and listening at the college and career readiness level; demonstrate independence in gathering vocabulary knowledge when considering a

word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.

- LA.W.11-12.1 Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.
- LA.W.11-12.2 Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.
- LA.W.11-12.4 Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1–3 above.)
- LA.W.11-12.6 Use technology, including the Internet, to produce, share, and update individual or shared writing products in response to ongoing feedback, including new arguments or information.
- LA.W.11-12.7 Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question) or solve a problem; narrow or broaden the inquiry when appropriate; synthesize multiple sources on the subject, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.
- LA.W.11-12.8 Gather relevant information from multiple authoritative print and digital sources, using advanced searches effectively; assess the strengths and limitations of each source in terms of the task, purpose, and audience; integrate information into the text selectively to maintain the flow of ideas, avoiding plagiarism and overreliance on any one source and following a standard format for citation. (MLA or APA Style Manuals).
- LA.W.11-12.10 Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of tasks, purposes.
- LA.RI.11-12.1 Accurately cite strong and thorough textual evidence, (e.g., via discussion, written response, etc.), to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferentially, including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain.
- LA.RI.11-12.2 Determine two or more central ideas of a text, and analyze their development and how they interact to provide a complex analysis; provide an objective summary of the text.
- LA.RI.11-12.3 Analyze a complex set of ideas or sequence of events and explain how specific individuals, ideas, or events interact and develop over the course of the text.
- LA.RI.11-12.4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze how an author uses and refines the meaning of a key term or terms over the course of a text (e.g., how Madison defines faction in Federalist No. 10).
- LA.RI.11-12.5 Analyze and evaluate the effectiveness of the structure an author uses in his or her exposition or argument, including whether the structure makes points clear, convincing, and engaging.
- LA.RI.11-12.6 Determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text in which the rhetoric is particularly effective, analyzing how style and content contribute to the power, persuasiveness or beauty of the text.
- LA.RI.11-12.7 Integrate and evaluate multiple sources of information presented in different media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively) as well as in words in order to address a question or solve a problem.
- LA.RI.11-12.10b By the end of grade 12, read and comprehend literary nonfiction at grade level text-complexity or above.
- LA.RL.11-12.1 Cite strong and thorough textual evidence and make relevant connections to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text, including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain.
- LA.RL.11-12.2 Determine two or more themes or central ideas of a text and analyze their development over the course of the text, including how they interact and build on one another to

	produce a complex account; provide an objective summary of the text.
LA.RL.11-12.3	Analyze the impact of the author’s choices regarding how to develop and relate elements of a story or drama (e.g., where a story is set, how the action is ordered, how the characters are introduced and developed).
LA.RL.11-12.4	Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in the text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including words with multiple meanings or language that is particularly fresh, engaging, or beautiful. (e.g., Shakespeare as well as other authors.)
LA.RL.11-12.5	Analyze how an author’s choices concerning how to structure specific parts of a text (e.g., the choice of where to begin or end a story, the choice to provide a comedic or tragic resolution) contribute to its overall structure and meaning as well as its aesthetic impact.
LA.RL.11-12.6	Analyze a case in which grasping a point of view requires distinguishing what is directly stated in a text from what is really meant (e.g., satire, sarcasm, irony, or understatement).
LA.SL.11-12.1	Initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with peers on grades 11–12 topics, texts, and issues, building on others’ ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.
LA.11-12.SL.11-12.2	Integrate multiple sources of information presented in diverse formats and media (e.g., visually, quantitatively, orally) in order to make informed decisions and solve problems, evaluating the credibility and accuracy of each source and noting any discrepancies among the data.
CRP.K-12.CRP4.1	Career-ready individuals communicate thoughts, ideas, and action plans with clarity, whether using written, verbal, and/or visual methods. They communicate in the workplace with clarity and purpose to make maximum use of their own and others’ time. They are excellent writers; they master conventions, word choice, and organization, and use effective tone and presentation skills to articulate ideas. They are skilled at interacting with others; they are active listeners and speak clearly and with purpose. Career-ready individuals think about the audience for their communication and prepare accordingly to ensure the desired outcome.
CRP.K-12.CRP7.1	Career-ready individuals are discerning in accepting and using new information to make decisions, change practices or inform strategies. They use reliable research process to search for new information. They evaluate the validity of sources when considering the use and adoption of external information or practices in their workplace situation.
TECH.8.1.12	Educational Technology: All students will use digital tools to access, manage, evaluate, and synthesize information in order to solve problems individually and collaborate and to create and communicate knowledge.
TECH.8.1.12.C	Communication and Collaboration: Students use digital media and environments to communicate and work collaboratively, including at a distance, to support individual learning and contribute to the learning of others.
TECH.8.1.12.C.CS1	Interact, collaborate, and publish with peers, experts, or others by employing a variety of digital environments and media.
TECH.8.1.12.D.CS1	Advocate and practice safe, legal, and responsible use of information and technology.

## **Grading and Evaluation Guidelines**

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### **GRADING PROCEDURES**

Marking period grades are determined by dividing the total number of points earned by the total number of potential points. More intense and involved assessments are worth more points and therefore have a greater effect on a student’s grade. Formal and informal writing assignments, responses to text and reading quizzes are frequently assigned.

The department's goal for every course is that a minimum of 95% of the pupils will meet at least the minimum proficiency level (D or better) set for the course. The department will analyze the achievement of students on Unit Assessments, Mid-term and Final Exams and Final Course Grades, and for Final Course Grades the achievement of sub-groups identified by the state to determine if modifications in the curriculum and instructional methods are needed.

In terms of proficiency level the East Brunswick grades equate to:

- A     Excellent     Advanced Proficient
- B     Good            Above Average Proficient
- C     Fair                Proficient
- D     Poor                Minimally proficient
- F     Failing             Partially Proficient

**Other Details**

**SCED 01065 Literature of a Theme**

Course #	School #'s	Course Level	Grade(s)	Credits	Min. Per Week	Elective Or Required	Initial Course Adopted
<b>1021</b>	<b>050</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>10-12</b>	<b>1.25</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>Elective</b>	