

ENGLISH PROGRAM AT THE LFT

SECONDARY SCHOOL: Grade 6 to Grade 12 (*Sixième to Terminale*)

The long-term goal of the English program at the Lycée Français de Toronto is to develop skills in the English language and literature that are at par with the Ontario provincial standards for English schools and superior to those of the national curriculum of France. Students receive five hours of English per week.

Two streams are offered to our students:

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

The **ESL course** is taught in small groups to students who have recently arrived in Toronto in grade six – grade twelve (*sixième – terminale*).

Students will normally spend two years in the ESL program before moving into the Advanced English class. This two-year period may be shortened or extended depending on the needs and progress of individual students, as determined by the ESL teacher and the English team.

The ESL program integrates all four language skills: *reading, writing, listening* and *speaking*, with special emphasis on key vocabulary, pronunciation, sentence structure and language conventions. Although literature at an appropriate level is taught in the ESL courses, it is not the focus of the program.

The ESL course aims to build general English literacy in preparation for transfer into the Advanced English program.

TOEFL PREPARATION

The English department also offers a TOEFL preparation class for any students in grade eleven (*première*) or grade twelve (*terminale*).

This class is offered twice weekly, and provides students in the ESL program with an opportunity to prepare for the English language test most widely accepted by North American universities.

ADVANCED ENGLISH (See also THE OIB AND ADVANCED PLACEMENT)

The **Advanced English program** is based on the Ontario Curriculum from grade six to grade twelve (*sixième to terminale*).

The Advanced English program consists of four main components: *oral communication, reading, writing* and *media literacy*.

In the Advanced English stream, students study literary works in a variety of genres (novels, plays, poems, essays), from various periods (16th to 21st centuries) and from several countries (Britain, Canada, the USA, Ireland, India, etc.). A Shakespeare play is studied every year after grade six (sixième) and, with rare exceptions, all works are studied in their entirety. At the same time, the students' writing skills are developed through numerous assignments which range from creative to critical and analytical. Grammar is presented explicitly, and speaking skills are honed through oral presentations, public recitation, discussions, debates and drama.

THE OIB (INTERNATIONAL OPTION OF THE FRENCH BACCALAUREATE)

The OIB (International Option of the French Baccalaureate) is an enriched curriculum which promotes a fully bilingual and bicultural education. The program consists of advanced-level studies in English and an integrated History-Geography course taught by French and Canadian faculty. The OIB is not a separate diploma, but rather a specialisation within the framework of the French Baccalaureate; **the OIB is not the International Baccalaureate (IB)**. Students prepare the OIB during grades 11 and 12 and must be fully bilingual. The most rigorous curriculum a student can follow is the OIB option.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT ENGLISH LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION EXAM

For those students in grade eleven (première) who have demonstrated both skill and interest in the study of English Literature, a supplementary hour of English is provided to prepare students to write the *Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition Exam*. This three-hour exam is offered by the College Board, and is typically written in May of the grade eleven (première) year.

BACCALAUREATE PREPARATION

Teachers of both grade twelve (Terminale) classes (*English as a Second Language* and *Advanced English-Non OIB*) work together to prepare all grade 12 (Terminale) students for the English section of the Baccalaureate exam. Throughout the year, time is devoted to preparation and practice of the oral, listening and written examinations.

The listening and oral examinations take place in the second and third trimesters respectively and the written examination takes place at the end of the grade 12 (Terminale) year.