

Course Map

Model Lesson and Assessment Sequence

PLAN

The course map shows how components are positioned throughout the course. As the map indicates, the course is designed to be taught over 140 class periods (based on 45-minute class periods), for a total of 28 weeks.

Model lessons are included for approximately 50% of the total instructional time, with the percentage varying by unit.

TEACH

The model lessons demonstrate how the course framework, Pre-AP shared principles, and English areas of focus come to life in the classroom.

Shared Principles

- close observation and analysis
- higher-order questioning
- evidence-based writing
- academic conversation

Areas of Focus

- reading closely
- valuing evidence
- noticing language choices

ASSESS AND REFLECT

- Each unit includes two learning checkpoints and a performance task. These formative assessments are designed to provide meaningful feedback for both teachers and students.
- The learning checkpoints may be administered at any time during the unit, but ideally they should be spaced far enough apart to allow time for responsive teaching in between.
- The performance task provides a culminating reading and writing experience, so it should be administered near the end of the unit.
- Additional opportunities for formative assessment are also provided throughout the model lessons.
- A final exam is available for administration during a six-week window at the end of the course.

Big Ideas

- Engaging with Texts
- Constructing Texts
- Focusing on Language
- Investigating Through Research
- Entering the Conversation

UNIT 1 Telling Details

Genre Focus: Short Stories and Visual Texts

Pre-AP Lesson Set (3–5 weeks)

Engaging with Texts

- short fiction and visual images
- how authors use specific details to convey meanings

Constructing Texts

- complex sentences
- narrative paragraphs
- analytical paragraphs

Focusing on Language

- punctuation in complex sentences and direct quotations
- word meanings and relationships
- effects of word choice

Entering the Conversation

- academic conversations

Learning Checkpoint 1

Teacher-Developed Lessons

Suggestions

- analysis of short fiction and visual texts
- additional study informed by student needs and interest and local requirements

Learning Checkpoint 2

Performance Task for Unit 1

Analyzing Telling Details

(one-paragraph analysis of short fiction)

UNIT 2 Pivotal Words and Phrases

Genre Focus: Poetry and Drama

Pre-AP Lesson Set (4–6 weeks)

Engaging with Texts

- poetry and drama excerpts
- stylistic choices

Constructing Texts

- found poems
- analytical sentences and paragraphs
- multiparagraph analyses

Focusing on Language

- meaning and impact of words and phrases
- effects of word choices

Entering the Conversation

- choral readings and dramatic performances
- academic conversations

Learning Checkpoint 1

Teacher-Developed Lessons

Suggestions

- analysis of pivotal words and phrases in multiple genres
- critical reading of poetry and drama
- additional study informed by student needs and interest and local requirements

Learning Checkpoint 2

Performance Task for Unit 2

Analyzing Pivotal Words and Phrases

(multiparagraph analysis of a poem or drama excerpt)

UNIT 3 Compelling Evidence

Genre Focus: Essays and Arguments

Pre-AP Lesson Set (3–5 weeks)

Engaging with Texts

- nonfiction essays and arguments
- rhetorical features
- informational graphs
- comparisons of texts with varied perspectives

Constructing Texts

- original arguments
- annotated storyboards
- analytical sentences, paragraphs, and essays

Focusing on Language

- precise language
- effects of word choice

Investigating Through Research

- on-the-spot research

Entering the Conversation

- academic conversations

Learning Checkpoint 1

Teacher-Developed Lessons

Suggestions

- critical reading of arguments
- research and oral presentations
- additional study guided by student needs and interest and local requirements

Learning Checkpoint 2

Performance Task for Unit 3

Analyzing an Argument

(analytical essay based on an argument)

UNIT 4 Powerful Openings

Genre Focus: Openings of Novels

Pre-AP Lesson Set (3–6 weeks)

Engaging with Texts

- novel openings
- narrative perspectives
- characterization and setting

Constructing Texts

- analytical sentences and paragraphs
- descriptive paragraphs
- literary analysis essays

Focusing on Language

- effects of word choice
- word meanings and word relationships
- direct quotations

Investigating Through Research

- collaborative research summaries and presentations

Entering the Conversation

- structured academic conversations

Learning Checkpoint 1

Teacher-Developed Lessons

Suggestions

- novel studies
- comparisons across genres
- additional study guided by student needs and interest and local requirements

Learning Checkpoint 2

Performance Task for Unit 4

Writing a Literary Analysis Essay

(analytical essay based on a fictional text)