

BBYM Grade 12 Reading Program – Complete Curriculum Guide

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Program Overview

****Duration:**** Full Academic Year (32 weeks)

****Meeting Schedule:**** 3 days/week, 2 hours per session (6 hours weekly)

****Target Audience:**** Grade 12 students preparing for college-level reading and AP Literature

****Program Goal:**** Develop college-ready reading, writing, and critical thinking skills

■ COMPONENT 1: LITERARY MASTERWORKS

****Duration:**** 10 weeks

****Focus:**** Deep engagement with canonical and contemporary literature

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Learning Objectives

- Analyze complex literary texts using close reading techniques
- Identify and interpret literary devices, themes, and motifs
- Understand historical and cultural contexts of major works
- Develop sophisticated literary interpretation skills
- Make connections across texts and time periods

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Weekly Breakdown

##

Weeks 1-2: Introduction to Literary Analysis

****Text:**** *Hamlet* by William Shakespeare (selected scenes)

****Day 1:****

- Introduction to close reading strategies
- Historical context: Elizabethan England
- Read and analyze Act 1, Scene 1-2
- Focus: Exposition, characterization, dramatic irony

****Day 2:****

- Soliloquy analysis: "To be or not to be"
- Literary devices: metaphor, imagery, symbolism
- Discussion: Themes of madness, revenge, mortality
- Activity: Annotate text in small groups

****Day 3:****

- Character analysis: Hamlet's psychological complexity
- Compare: Modern adaptations and interpretations
- Writing: 1-page response on Hamlet's internal conflict
- Homework: Read selected scenes from Acts 3-5

****Assessment:****

- Annotated text submission
- Short response essay (500 words)
- Class discussion participation rubric

##

Weeks 3-4: American Literary Voice

****Text:**** *Beloved* by Toni Morrison (excerpts)

****Day 1:****

- Author study: Toni Morrison and her literary significance
- Historical context: Post-slavery trauma and memory
- Read opening chapter: narrative style and structure
- Focus: Stream of consciousness, non-linear narrative

****Day 2:****

- Symbol analysis: The ghost, the house, Sethe's scars
- Themes: Maternal love, trauma, identity, freedom
- Literary technique: Magical realism
- Activity: Symbol mapping exercise

****Day 3:****

- Character deep-dive: Sethe, Denver, Beloved
- Discussion: Memory as both curse and salvation
- Comparative analysis: Other trauma narratives
- Writing: Essay on Morrison's use of magical realism

****Assessment:****

- Symbol analysis presentation (pairs)
- Comparative essay (750 words)
- Reading journal entries

##

Weeks 5-6: Modernist Literature

****Text:**** *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald

****Day 1:****

- Historical context: The Jazz Age, American Dream
- Narrative perspective: Nick Carraway as unreliable narrator
- Read Chapters 1-3: Character introductions
- Focus: Setting, symbolism, social class

****Day 2:****

- Symbol study: Green light, eyes of Dr. T.J. Eckleburg
- Themes: Wealth, class, illusion vs. reality
- Color symbolism throughout the novel
- Activity: Visual symbol board creation

****Day 3:****

- Character analysis: Gatsby's pursuit and downfall
- Fitzgerald's critique of the American Dream
- Writing: Analytical essay on symbolism
- Discussion: Relevance to contemporary society

****Assessment:****

- Symbol board presentation
- Analytical essay (1000 words)
- Socratic seminar participation

##

Weeks 7-8: Contemporary African-American Voices

****Text:**** *Go Tell It on the Mountain* by James Baldwin (excerpts)

****Day 1:****

- Author study: James Baldwin's literary and social impact
- Context: Religion, identity, and the Black experience
- Read Part One: "The Seventh Day"
- Focus: Religious imagery, family dynamics

****Day 2:****

- Theme analysis: Faith, sexuality, identity, repression
- Baldwin's prose style and narrative techniques
- Character study: John Grimes' awakening
- Activity: Thematic essay outline

****Day 3:****

- Discussion: Baldwin's exploration of intersectional identity
- Compare/contrast: Baldwin's essays vs. fiction
- Contemporary relevance and connections
- Writing: Literary analysis essay

****Assessment:****

- Thematic analysis essay (1000 words)
- Connection to contemporary issues presentation
- Reading comprehension quiz

##

Weeks 9-10: Global Perspectives

****Text:**** *Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe

****Day 1:****

- Cultural context: Pre-colonial Igbo society
- Colonial literature and postcolonial response
- Read Part One: Chapters 1-7
- Focus: Cultural traditions, character development

****Day 2:****

- Tragic hero analysis: Okonkwo's rise and fall
- Themes: Tradition vs. change, masculinity, colonialism
- Achebe's challenge to Western narratives
- Activity: Cultural comparison chart

****Day 3:****

- Discussion: Impact of colonialism on culture and identity
- Literary technique: Proverbs and oral tradition
- Contemporary applications: Cultural preservation
- Writing: Comparative literary analysis

****Assessment:****

- Comparative essay (1000-1200 words)
- Cultural context presentation
- Final reflection on all texts studied

#

Supplementary Texts (Excerpts/Poems)

- Poetry by Langston Hughes, Maya Angelou, Gwendolyn Brooks
- Short stories by Flannery O'Connor, Ralph Ellison
- Contemporary voices: Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, Colson Whitehead

#

Assessment Methods

- Weekly reading journals (10 points each)
- Short response essays (25 points each)
- Major analytical essays (50 points each)
- Class discussion participation (100 points total)
- Mid-component exam (100 points)
- End-of-component portfolio (150 points)

****Total Component Points: 500****

■ COMPONENT 2: CRITICAL ESSAYS & RESEARCH

****Duration:**** 8 weeks

****Focus:**** Thesis-driven academic writing and research skills

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Learning Objectives

- Develop strong, arguable thesis statements
- Structure multi-paragraph analytical essays
- Use textual evidence effectively
- Master revision and peer review processes
- Understand and apply literary criticism frameworks

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Weekly Breakdown

##

Week 1: Essay Fundamentals

****Focus:**** Thesis Development and Essay Structure

****Day 1: Understanding the Literary Essay****

- Difference between summary and analysis
- Elements of a strong thesis statement
- Thesis workshop: From topic to argument
- Examples: Strong vs. weak thesis statements
- Practice: Generate 3 thesis statements from a short text

****Day 2: Essay Structure and Organization****

- Introduction strategies: Hook, context, thesis
- Body paragraph structure: PEEL method (Point, Evidence, Explanation, Link)
- Topic sentences and transitions
- Activity: Outline a 5-paragraph essay
- Discussion: Common structural pitfalls

****Day 3: Evidence Integration****

- How to select relevant quotations
- Proper citation format (MLA in-text citations)
- Quote sandwiching: Introduce, quote, explain
- Practice: Integrate 5 quotes into paragraphs
- Writing: Draft introduction and first body paragraph

****Assignment:**** Complete first draft of literary analysis essay (750 words)

##

Week 2: Revision and Peer Review

****Focus:**** The Writing Process and Feedback

****Day 1: Peer Review Workshop****

- Effective peer review strategies
- Feedback rubric introduction
- Activity: Peer review in groups of 3
- Focus areas: Thesis clarity, evidence use, organization
- Written feedback forms

****Day 2: Revision Strategies****

- Self-editing checklist
- Strengthening weak paragraphs
- Eliminating wordiness and improving clarity
- Grammar focus: Common errors (comma splices, fragments)
- Activity: Revise introduction and conclusion

****Day 3: Polishing Your Essay****

- Crafting strong conclusions
- Title creation strategies
- Final proofreading techniques
- Formatting requirements review
- Submit: Final revised essay

****Assignment:**** Submit revised essay with revision reflection (1 page)

##

Week 3-4: Research Paper Foundations

****Focus:**** Academic Research and Source Integration

****Week 3, Day 1: Research Questions****

- Moving from topic to research question
- Narrowing broad topics
- Creating a research plan
- Library resources overview
- Activity: Develop 3 potential research questions

****Week 3, Day 2: Finding and Evaluating Sources****

- Database navigation (JSTOR, Project MUSE, etc.)
- Evaluating source credibility
- Primary vs. secondary sources
- Taking effective research notes
- Activity: Find 5 potential sources for research topic

****Week 3, Day 3: Annotated Bibliography****

- Purpose and format of annotated bibliographies
- Summary vs. evaluation in annotations
- MLA citation format for various sources
- Activity: Create 3 annotated bibliography entries
- Assignment: Complete annotated bibliography (5 sources)

****Week 4, Day 1: Integrating Research****

- Signal phrases and attribution
- Balancing quotation, paraphrase, and summary
- Avoiding plagiarism
- Synthesis of multiple sources
- Activity: Write paragraph integrating 3 sources

****Week 4, Day 2: Research Paper Structure****

- Extended essay organization
- Introduction with literature review
- Body paragraphs with research integration
- Counter-arguments and rebuttals
- Outline workshop: Create detailed outline

****Week 4, Day 3: Drafting Workshop****

- In-class writing time
- Individual consultations
- Troubleshooting common issues
- Assignment: Complete first draft (1500 words minimum)

##

Week 5: Advanced Argumentation

****Focus:**** Sophisticated Analysis and Critical Thinking

****Day 1: Comparative Analysis****

- Techniques for comparing texts
- Organization strategies: Point-by-point vs. block
- Finding meaningful connections
- Activity: Venn diagram and comparative outline
- Example essays analysis

****Day 2: Literary Theory Introduction****

- Overview: Feminist, Marxist, Psychoanalytic, Postcolonial lenses
- Applying theoretical frameworks to texts
- Strengthening arguments with theory
- Activity: Analyze text through two different lenses
- Discussion: How theory deepens interpretation

****Day 3: Counter-Arguments and Complexity****

- Acknowledging alternative interpretations
- Strengthening arguments through concession
- Avoiding oversimplification
- Activity: Add counter-argument to existing essay
- Writing: Sophisticated thesis with nuance

****Assignment:**** Comparative analysis essay (1000 words)

##

Week 6: Style and Voice

****Focus:**** Developing Academic Writing Voice

****Day 1: Academic Tone****

- Formal vs. informal writing
- Avoiding common pitfalls: "I think," "In my opinion"
- Strong verbs and precise language
- Sentence variety and rhythm
- Activity: Revise paragraph for academic tone

****Day 2: Sophisticated Syntax****

- Combining sentences effectively
- Subordination and coordination
- Parallel structure
- Rhetorical devices in academic writing
- Activity: Sentence combining exercises

****Day 3: Word Choice and Precision****

- Avoiding vague language
- Literary analysis vocabulary
- Transitions between ideas
- Activity: Vocabulary integration exercise
- Writing: Revise previous essay for style

****Assignment:**** Style revision of previous work with reflection

##

Week 7-8: Major Research Paper

****Focus:**** Culminating Research Project

****Week 7: Writing Conference Week****

- Individual 15-minute conferences
- Discuss research progress and challenges
- Outline review and feedback
- Source evaluation
- Continued drafting and research

****Week 8, Day 1: Peer Review of Research Papers****

- Extended peer review session
- Focus: Argument strength, source integration, organization
- Feedback forms and written comments
- Revision planning

****Week 8, Day 2: Revision Workshop****

- In-class revision time
- Grammar and citation review
- Individual questions and support
- Final formatting check

****Week 8, Day 3: Presentations****

- 5-minute research presentations
- Key findings and arguments
- Q&A; from peers
- Submit: Final research paper (2000-2500 words)

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Component 2 Major Assignments

1. **Literary Analysis Essay** (Week 1-2): 750-1000 words - 100 points
2. **Annotated Bibliography** (Week 3): 5 sources - 50 points
3. **Research Paper Draft** (Week 4): 1500+ words - 75 points
4. **Comparative Analysis Essay** (Week 5): 1000 words - 100 points
5. **Style Revision Project** (Week 6): - 50 points
6. **Final Research Paper** (Week 8): 2000-2500 words - 200 points
7. **Research Presentation** (Week 8): 5 minutes - 50 points
8. **Peer Review Participation**: - 75 points

Total Component Points: 700

■ COMPONENT 3: EXAM PREPARATION

****Duration:**** 6 weeks

****Focus:**** AP Literature, SAT/ACT Reading strategies

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Learning Objectives

- Master AP Literature FRQ formats and strategies
- Improve reading speed and comprehension
- Develop test-taking strategies for standardized exams
- Practice timed writing under exam conditions
- Build stamina for extended reading passages

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Weekly Breakdown

##

Week 1: AP Literature Overview

****Focus:**** Understanding AP Lit Exam Structure

****Day 1: Exam Format and Scoring****

- AP Lit exam breakdown: MCQ + FRQ
- Scoring rubrics explained
- College Board resources
- Sample exams review
- Goal-setting for exam preparation

****Day 2: Multiple Choice Strategies****

- Question types: Interpretation, technique, purpose
- Process of elimination strategies
- Time management (1 minute per question)
- Practice: 10 multiple-choice questions
- Review answers and reasoning

****Day 3: Poetry Multiple Choice****

- Poetry-specific strategies
- Understanding archaic language
- Identifying tone and mood
- Practice: 2 poetry passages (20 questions)
- Detailed answer explanations

****Homework:**** Complete 1 full MCQ section (55 questions, 60 minutes)

##

Week 2: AP Free Response - Poetry Analysis

****Focus:**** FRQ #1 - Poetry Analysis

****Day 1: Poetry Analysis Fundamentals****

- Understanding the poetry prompt
- TPCASTT method (Title, Paraphrase, Connotation, Attitude, Shift, Title revisit, Theme)
- Annotating poetry for analysis
- Sample prompt review
- Practice: Annotate 2 poems in 10 minutes

****Day 2: Crafting the Poetry Essay****

- Thesis development for poetry prompts
- Organization strategies
- Incorporating poetic devices
- Time management: 40-minute essay
- Model essay analysis (9-point rubric)

****Day 3: Timed Poetry Essay Practice****

- Timed writing: Full 40-minute poetry essay
- Prompt: Provide unfamiliar poem
- Self-scoring using AP rubric
- Peer review and feedback
- Revision strategies discussion

****Assignment:**** Write 2 poetry analysis essays (at home, timed)

##

Week 3: AP Free Response - Prose Analysis

****Focus:**** FRQ #2 - Prose Analysis

****Day 1: Prose Fiction Analysis****

- Narrative techniques: Point of view, characterization, setting
- Close reading of prose passages
- Identifying author's choices and effects
- Sample prompt walkthrough
- Practice: Annotate prose excerpt

****Day 2: Prose Essay Structure****

- Thesis statements for prose analysis
- Body paragraph development
- Integrating quotations from prose
- Analyzing literary techniques in context
- Model essay review

****Day 3: Timed Prose Essay Practice****

- Timed writing: 40-minute prose analysis
- Prompt: Provide prose excerpt
- Self-assessment
- Compare with sample responses
- Discussion: Common pitfalls

****Assignment:**** Complete 2 prose analysis essays (timed, at home)

##

Week 4: AP Free Response - Literary Argument

****Focus:**** FRQ #3 - Literary Argument

****Day 1: The Open Question****

- Understanding the literary argument prompt
- Choosing appropriate texts
- Building a sophisticated argument
- Thesis development
- Text selection strategies

****Day 2: Literary Argument Structure****

- Organization for multiple-text essays
- Comparative vs. thematic approach
- Evidence from memory
- Avoiding plot summary
- Model essay analysis

****Day 3: Practice Literary Argument****

- Prompt: "Works that explore the consequences of isolation"
- Planning time: 10 minutes
- Writing time: 40 minutes
- Peer scoring using rubric
- Feedback and revision

****Assignment:**** Write 3 literary argument essays with different texts

##

Week 5: SAT/ACT Reading Strategies

****Focus:**** Standardized Test Reading Comprehension

****Day 1: SAT Reading Overview****

- Passage types: Literature, social science, natural science
- Question types and strategies
- Evidence-based questions
- Time management: 13 minutes per passage
- Practice: 1 literature passage

****Day 2: SAT Vocabulary in Context****

- Words-in-context questions
- Using context clues
- Avoiding trap answers
- Practice: 20 vocabulary questions from passages
- Building vocabulary for test day

****Day 3: ACT Reading Strategies****

- ACT format vs. SAT format
- Speed reading techniques
- Skimming vs. close reading
- Practice: 1 ACT reading passage (8-9 minutes)
- Compare strategies for both tests

****Assignment:**** Complete 2 SAT reading sections and 1 ACT reading section

##

Week 6: Full-Length Practice and Review

****Focus:**** Simulated Exam Experience

****Day 1: Full AP Literature MCQ Section****

- 55 questions, 60 minutes
- Test conditions (no breaks)
- Score and review
- Identify weak areas
- Strategy adjustment

****Day 2: Full AP Literature FRQ Section****

- All 3 essays: Poetry, Prose, Literary Argument
- 120 minutes, timed
- Self-scoring
- Compare to high-scoring samples
- Feedback session

****Day 3: Review and Final Strategies****

- Test day logistics and tips
- Time management review
- Last-minute study strategies
- Stress management techniques
- Q&A; session

****Assignment:**** Create personalized study plan for exam day

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Practice Materials

- 10 released AP Literature exams
- Khan Academy SAT practice tests
- Official ACT practice tests
- College Board question bank access
- Barron's/Princeton Review prep books

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Component 3 Assessment

- Weekly MCQ practice tests (10 points each): 60 points
- Poetry analysis essays (3 essays, 50 points each): 150 points
- Prose analysis essays (3 essays, 50 points each): 150 points
- Literary argument essays (3 essays, 50 points each): 150 points
- Full-length practice exam: 100 points
- SAT/ACT practice sections (5 sections, 20 points each): 100 points
- Participation and homework completion: 90 points

****Total Component Points: 800****

■ COMPONENT 4: SCHOLARLY WRITING

****Duration:**** 4 weeks

****Focus:**** MLA/APA citation, research methodology, advanced academic writing

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Learning Objectives

- Master MLA and APA citation formats
- Create properly formatted works cited/reference pages
- Understand research ethics and plagiarism
- Develop advanced research skills
- Write annotated bibliographies and literature reviews

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Weekly Breakdown

##

Week 1: Citation Fundamentals

****Focus:**** MLA Format Mastery

****Day 1: Why Citations Matter****

- Academic integrity and plagiarism
- Giving credit to sources
- Building on scholarly conversation
- Types of plagiarism (intentional and unintentional)
- Consequences and prevention
- Activity: Identify plagiarism in examples

****Day 2: MLA In-Text Citations****

- Basic format: (Author page)
- Variations: Multiple authors, no author, indirect sources
- Signal phrases and integration
- Practice: Convert improper citations to MLA format
- Activity: Cite 10 different scenarios correctly

****Day 3: MLA Works Cited****

- General format rules
- Books: Print and electronic
- Articles: Print and database
- Websites and online sources
- Practice: Create works cited entries for 10 sources
- Common mistakes to avoid

****Assignment:**** Create a 10-source works cited page for research paper

##

Week 2: APA Format and Research Ethics

****Focus:**** APA Style and Academic Honesty

****Day 1: APA Basics****

- When to use APA vs. MLA
- APA in-text citations: (Author, Year)
- Differences from MLA format
- Signal phrases in APA
- Practice: Convert MLA citations to APA
- Activity: APA citation quiz

****Day 2: APA Reference List****

- Format and organization
- Common source types in APA
- DOI and URL rules
- Electronic sources
- Practice: Create reference list entries
- Activity: Build sample reference page

****Day 3: Research Ethics and Integrity****

- Understanding academic honesty
- Paraphrasing vs. summarizing vs. quoting
- When to cite (even for common knowledge)
- Using plagiarism detection tools
- Activity: Practice proper paraphrasing
- Discussion: Case studies of research ethics

****Assignment:**** Submit research paper with both MLA and APA formatting

##

Week 3: Advanced Research Skills

****Focus:**** Annotated Bibliographies and Literature Reviews

****Day 1: Annotated Bibliographies****

- Purpose and audience
- Annotation components: Summary, evaluation, reflection
- Writing concise annotations (150-200 words)
- Organization strategies
- Model annotations analysis
- Activity: Write 3 annotations

****Day 2: Literature Reviews****

- What is a literature review?
- Organizing research by theme
- Synthesizing multiple sources
- Identifying gaps in research
- Literature review structure
- Activity: Outline a literature review

****Day 3: Research Synthesis****

- Comparing and contrasting sources
- Finding connections between texts
- Building scholarly conversations
- Advanced integration techniques
- Activity: Write synthesis paragraph from 4 sources
- Discussion: Moving beyond source reporting

****Assignment:**** Complete annotated bibliography (8 sources) and 2-page literature review

##

Week 4: Advanced Academic Projects

****Focus:**** Scholarly Proposals and Presentations

****Day 1: Research Proposals****

- Components of a research proposal
- Research questions and hypotheses
- Methodology section
- Expected outcomes
- Timeline and resources
- Activity: Draft research proposal outline

****Day 2: Academic Presentations****

- Conference presentation formats
- Creating effective slides
- Presenting research findings
- Handling Q&A; sessions
- Practice: 5-minute research presentations
- Peer feedback

****Day 3: Publication and Scholarly Communication****

- Undergraduate research journals
- Submission processes
- Cover letters and abstracts
- Peer review process overview
- Building an academic portfolio
- Activity: Write abstract for research paper

****Assignment:**** Final portfolio including:

- Research paper (MLA format)
- Same paper in APA format
- Annotated bibliography
- Literature review
- Research proposal
- Presentation slides

#

Component 4 Major Assignments

1. **MLA Works Cited Page** (Week 1): 10 sources - 50 points
2. **APA Reference List** (Week 2): 10 sources - 50 points
3. **Dual-Format Research Paper** (Week 2): MLA and APA - 100 points
4. **Annotated Bibliography** (Week 3): 8 sources - 100 points
5. **Literature Review** (Week 3): 2-3 pages - 100 points
6. **Research Proposal** (Week 4): 3-4 pages - 100 points
7. **Research Presentation** (Week 4): 10 minutes - 75 points
8. **Final Scholarly Portfolio** (Week 4): - 125 points

Total Component Points: 700

■ COMPONENT 5: CULTURAL & GLOBAL LITERACY

****Duration:**** 6 weeks

****Focus:**** Comparative literature, African-American voices, global perspectives

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Learning Objectives

- Analyze literature from diverse cultural perspectives
- Understand historical and cultural contexts
- Compare literary traditions across cultures
- Examine issues of identity, race, and power in literature
- Develop cultural competency through reading

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Weekly Breakdown

##

Week 1: Introduction to Comparative Literature

****Focus:**** Frameworks for Cross-Cultural Analysis

****Day 1: What is Comparative Literature?***

- Definition and scope
- Cultural contexts in literature
- Avoiding stereotypes and generalizations
- Reader positionality and bias
- Activity: Reflect on own cultural perspective
- Discussion: How culture shapes reading

****Day 2: Postcolonial Literature Overview****

- Colonialism and its literary impact
- Postcolonial theory basics
- Reclaiming narratives
- Key authors and texts
- Reading: Excerpts from Ngugi wa Thiong'o "Decolonising the Mind"
- Discussion: Language and power

****Day 3: Comparative Analysis Framework****

- Universal vs. culturally-specific themes
- Techniques for comparing texts
- Historical/cultural research methods
- Activity: Create comparison chart for 2 texts
- Writing: Comparative framework outline

****Assignment:**** Research cultural context for one assigned text

##

Week 2-3: African-American Literary Tradition

****Focus:**** Harlem Renaissance to Contemporary Voices

****Week 2, Day 1: Harlem Renaissance****

- Historical context: Great Migration, 1920s Harlem
- Key figures: Hughes, Hurston, McKay, Cullen
- Poetry analysis: Langston Hughes selections
- Themes: Identity, double consciousness, racial pride
- Activity: Poetry interpretation presentations

****Week 2, Day 2: The Blues Tradition in Literature****

- Blues as literary influence
- Langston Hughes' blues poems
- Zora Neale Hurston's use of vernacular
- Reading: Excerpt from "Their Eyes Were Watching God"
- Activity: Analysis of dialect and voice
- Discussion: Authenticity and representation

****Week 2, Day 3: Protest and Social Commentary****

- Richard Wright and the protest novel
- Reading: Excerpt from "Native Son"
- James Baldwin's critique of protest literature
- Comparing approaches to social change
- Activity: Debate - Art vs. activism
- Writing: Response essay on literature's role

****Week 3, Day 1: Civil Rights Era Literature****

- Historical context: 1950s-1970s
- Reading: Gwendolyn Brooks poems
- Maya Angelou's autobiographical work
- Excerpt: "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings"
- Activity: Historical timeline with literary works
- Discussion: Voice and resistance

****Week 3, Day 2: Contemporary Black Voices****

- Toni Morrison's legacy (revisited)
- Reading: Colson Whitehead "The Underground Railroad" excerpt
- Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's TED talk: "Danger of a Single Story"
- Contemporary poets: Claudia Rankine, Terrance Hayes
- Activity: Compare Morrison's generation to contemporary writers

****Week 3, Day 3: Afrofuturism and Speculative Fiction****

- Octavia Butler's science fiction
- Reading: Short story "Bloodchild"
- N.K. Jemisin and contemporary Afrofuturism
- Using genre to explore social issues
- Activity: Creative writing - speculative fiction outline

- Discussion: Why sci-fi for Black narratives?

****Assignment:**** Comparative essay on two African-American texts from different eras (1000 words)

##

Week 4: Global Voices - Africa and Diaspora

****Focus:**** African Literature and Caribbean Voices

****Day 1: West African Oral Tradition to Written Literature****

- Oral storytelling traditions
- Griots and their role
- Translation considerations
- Reading: Amos Tutuola excerpt "The Palm-Wine Drinkard"
- Activity: Analyze use of proverbs and folklore
- Discussion: Preserving oral tradition in writing

****Day 2: Nigerian Literature****

- Chinua Achebe (revisited in depth)
- Wole Soyinka's drama
- Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's short stories
- Reading: "Half of a Yellow Sun" excerpt
- Themes: Colonialism, war, identity
- Activity: Research Biafran War context

****Day 3: Caribbean Literature and Postcolonial Identity****

- Derek Walcott's poetry
- Edwidge Danticat's Haitian-American narrative
- Reading: "Krik? Krak!" excerpt
- Creole and hybrid identities
- Activity: Map diaspora connections
- Discussion: Home, exile, and belonging

****Assignment:**** Research presentation on one African or Caribbean author (10 minutes)

##

Week 5: Global Voices - Latin America and Asia

****Focus:**** Magical Realism and Eastern Perspectives

****Day 1: Latin American Magical Realism****

- Historical context and political backdrop
- Gabriel García Márquez and "One Hundred Years of Solitude"
- Isabel Allende's feminist perspective
- Reading: Short story excerpt
- Comparing magical realism to African-American traditions
- Activity: Identify magical realist elements

****Day 2: East Asian Perspectives****

- Chinese literature: Lao She, Ha Jin
- Japanese literature: Haruki Murakami excerpt
- Reading: Amy Tan "The Joy Luck Club" excerpt
- Immigration narratives
- East meets West: Cultural negotiation
- Activity: Cultural context research

****Day 3: South Asian Voices****

- Partition literature: Bapsi Sidhwa, Manto
- Postcolonial India: Salman Rushdie, Arundhati Roy
- Reading: "The God of Small Things" excerpt
- Themes: Caste, colonialism, forbidden love
- Activity: Compare postcolonial texts from different regions
- Discussion: Universal vs. specific experiences

****Assignment:**** Analytical essay on global literature theme across 3 texts from different regions (1200 words)

##

Week 6: Synthesis and Reflection

****Focus:**** Bringing It All Together

****Day 1: Comparative Literature Presentations****

- Student presentations: Compare 2 texts from different cultures
- Thematic connections across borders
- Formal presentations (8-10 minutes each)
- Q&A; and discussion

****Day 2: Contemporary Global Issues in Literature****

- Immigration and displacement
- Environmental justice
- Gender and sexuality across cultures
- Economic inequality
- Reading: Contemporary short stories addressing these themes
- Activity: Literature circle discussions

****Day 3: Cultural Literacy Reflection****

- What did we learn?
- How has your perspective changed?
- Applying cultural competency to reading
- Discussion: Responsibility of readers
- Writing: Reflective essay on growth
- Component wrap-up and celebration

****Final Project:****

Multimedia presentation (15 minutes) comparing literary traditions from 2+ cultures, including:

- Historical/cultural context
- Thematic analysis
- Textual evidence
- Personal reflection
- Creative element (art, music, video, etc.)

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Component 5 Major Assignments

1. **Cultural Context Research** (Week 1): 500 words - 50 points
2. **Comparative Essay - African-American Literature** (Week 3): 1000 words - 100 points
3. **Author Research Presentation** (Week 4): 10 minutes - 100 points
4. **Global Literature Essay** (Week 5): 1200 words - 150 points
5. **Weekly Discussion Participation**: - 100 points
6. **Final Multimedia Presentation** (Week 6): 15 minutes - 200 points
7. **Reflective Essay** (Week 6): 750 words - 100 points

Total Component Points: 800

■ COMPONENT 6: CAPSTONE PROJECT

****Duration:**** 4 weeks

****Focus:**** Culminating portfolio demonstrating mastery

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Project Overview

The Capstone Project is a comprehensive portfolio showcasing student growth and achievement throughout the program. It includes analytical writing, creative responses, research, and reflection.

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Learning Objectives

- Synthesize learning from all program components
- Demonstrate college-ready skills
- Create a professional academic portfolio
- Reflect on growth as reader, writer, and thinker
- Prepare materials for college applications

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Project Components

##

Component 1: Literary Analysis Portfolio (25%)

****Requirements:****

- 3 literary analysis essays (revised and polished)
- One from each major genre: poetry, prose fiction, drama
- Each 1000-1200 words
- Demonstrates close reading and sophisticated interpretation
- Includes reflection on revision process (1 page per essay)

****Suggested Topics:****

- Symbol and meaning in a modernist text
- Character development in a coming-of-age narrative
- Theme exploration across multiple poems
- Social commentary in contemporary literature

##

Component 2: Research Paper (30%)

****Requirements:****

- Original research paper: 2500-3000 words
- Minimum 10 scholarly sources
- MLA or APA format (student choice)
- Annotated bibliography included
- Clear thesis and sophisticated argument
- Demonstrates research skills and source integration

****Suggested Research Areas:****

- Literary analysis: Author study or thematic exploration
- Comparative literature: Cross-cultural analysis
- Literature and social issues: Race, gender, class, identity
- Literary history: Movement or period study
- Contemporary literature: Recent publications and trends

****Research Process Documentation:****

- Research proposal (2 pages)
- Annotated bibliography (10 sources)
- Outline with drafted thesis
- First draft
- Final draft with revision notes

##

Component 3: Creative Response Project (15%)

****Requirements:****

- Creative work inspired by course readings
- Written explanation/artist statement (500 words)
- Makes explicit connections to course texts
- Demonstrates deep engagement with literature

****Options:****

1. ****Creative Writing:****

- Short story (2000-3000 words)
- Collection of 5-7 poems
- One-act play or scene
- Hybrid genre piece

2. ****Multimedia Project:****

- Video essay (8-10 minutes)
- Podcast episode (15-20 minutes)
- Digital storytelling project
- Literary website or blog

3. ****Visual Art:****

- Illustrated literary analysis
- Graphic novel scene adaptation
- Art installation with written explanation
- Photography series with literary theme

****Must Include:****

- Artist statement explaining choices
- Connection to at least 3 course texts
- Reflection on creative process

##

Component 4: Test Preparation Portfolio (10%)

****Requirements:****

- Evidence of exam preparation
- 3 practice AP Literature essays (one of each type)
- 2 full-length practice test results
- Self-assessment and score improvement tracking
- Study plan and materials used
- Reflection on test-taking strategies (500 words)

****Documentation:****

- Scores from beginning vs. end of prep
- Identification of weak areas and improvement strategies
- Time management log
- Test day preparation checklist

##

Component 5: Reading Journey Reflection (10%)

****Requirements:****

- Comprehensive reflection essay (1500-2000 words)
- Reading log from entire program
- Analysis of growth as reader and writer
- Discussion of challenges and breakthroughs
- Future academic goals

****Reflection Prompts:****

- How has your understanding of literature deepened?
- Which texts had the most impact on you? Why?
- How have you grown as a writer?
- What skills are you most proud of developing?
- How will you continue this work in college?
- What surprised you most about the program?

##

Component 6: Professional Portfolio Presentation (10%)

****Requirements:****

- Digital or physical portfolio compilation
- Table of contents and organization
- Professional formatting
- 15-minute oral presentation to panel
- Q&A; session (5-10 minutes)

****Portfolio Must Include:****

- Title page and introduction
- All capstone components
- Best work from each program component
- Resume/academic CV
- College essay (if applicable)
- Thank you/acknowledgments page

****Presentation Should Cover:****

- Overview of portfolio contents
- Highlight 2-3 strongest pieces
- Discussion of growth and learning
- Future academic plans
- Closing statement

#

Capstone Timeline

##

Week 1: Planning and Preparation

****Day 1:****

- Capstone overview and requirements
- Review all program work to date
- Brainstorm research topics
- Begin reading log compilation
- Activity: Create capstone project timeline

****Day 2:****

- Select essays for literary analysis portfolio
- Begin revision process
- Research topic selection workshop
- Annotated bibliography start
- One-on-one conferences with instructor

****Day 3:****

- Creative project brainstorming
- Review creative options
- Proposal: Research paper topic and thesis
- Submit: Capstone project plan and timeline
- Homework: Begin essay revisions

##

Week 2: Research and Drafting

****Day 1:****

- Research workshop: Source gathering
- Literary analysis portfolio: Revision workshop
- Creative project: Proposal presentations
- Peer feedback sessions
- Individual work time

****Day 2:****

- Research paper: Drafting body paragraphs
- Test prep portfolio: Organize materials
- Creative project: Begin work
- Writing conferences (sign up)
- Progress check-in

****Day 3:****

- Research paper: Continue drafting
- Literary analysis portfolio: Peer review
- Creative project: Workshop ideas
- Reading reflection: Begin outline
- Due: Research paper first draft

##

Week 3: Revision and Creation

****Day 1:****

- Research paper: Revision workshop
- Literary analysis portfolio: Final revisions due
- Creative project: Work session
- Test prep portfolio: Self-assessment
- Individual conferences

****Day 2:****

- Research paper: Final revisions
- Creative project: Progress presentations
- Reading reflection: Drafting workshop
- Portfolio organization begin
- Peer support sessions

****Day 3:****

- Creative project: Completion work time
- Reading reflection: Continue drafting
- Research paper: Final proofreading
- Portfolio: Digital formatting workshop
- Due: Research paper final draft

##

Week 4: Portfolio Completion and Presentations

****Day 1:****

- Creative projects due
- Reading reflection final revisions
- Portfolio: Compile all materials
- Presentation preparation workshop
- Practice presentations in small groups

****Day 2:****

- Portfolio finalization
- Presentation rehearsals
- Peer feedback on presentations
- Final touches and proofreading
- Submit: Complete portfolio (digital submission)

****Day 3:****

- Capstone Presentations (all students)
- Panel: Teachers, administrators, invited guests
- Q&A; sessions
- Certificate ceremony
- Celebration and reflection

#

Assessment Rubrics

##

Literary Analysis Portfolio Rubric (25%)

- **Thesis and Argument** (30 points): Clear, sophisticated, arguable
- **Evidence and Analysis** (30 points): Strong textual support, deep interpretation
- **Organization and Structure** (20 points): Logical flow, effective transitions
- **Writing Quality** (15 points): Grammar, style, polish
- **Revision Reflection** (5 points): Thoughtful, specific

Total: 100 points × 25% = 25% of capstone grade

##

Research Paper Rubric (30%)

- **Research Question/Thesis** (25 points): Original, complex, focused
- **Research Quality** (25 points): Scholarly sources, proper use
- **Argument and Analysis** (25 points): Sophisticated, well-supported
- **Source Integration** (15 points): Seamless, proper citation
- **Writing and Format** (10 points): MLA/APA compliance, polished

Total: 100 points × 30% = 30% of capstone grade

##

Creative Response Rubric (15%)

- **Creativity and Originality** (30 points): Innovative, engaging
- **Connection to Texts** (30 points): Clear, meaningful connections
- **Execution and Quality** (25 points): Skillful, polished
- **Artist Statement** (15 points): Clear explanation, reflection

Total: 100 points × 15% = 15% of capstone grade

##

Test Prep Portfolio Rubric (10%)

- **Completion** (40 points): All required materials included
- **Evidence of Growth** (30 points): Score improvement, progress shown
- **Reflection Quality** (30 points): Thoughtful, specific, strategic

Total: 100 points × 10% = 10% of capstone grade

##

Reading Reflection Rubric (10%)

- **Depth of Reflection** (40 points): Thoughtful, specific examples
- **Analysis of Growth** (30 points): Clear articulation of development
- **Writing Quality** (20 points): Well-organized, polished
- **Completeness** (10 points): Addresses all prompts

Total: 100 points × 10% = 10% of capstone grade

##

Portfolio Presentation Rubric (10%)

- **Organization** (20 points): Professional, clear structure
- **Oral Presentation** (40 points): Clear, confident, engaging
- **Content Quality** (30 points): Thoughtful selection, strong examples
- **Q&A; Response** (10 points): Thoughtful, articulate

Total: 100 points × 10% = 10% of capstone grade

#

Capstone Grading

- **Total Possible Points:** 100 (weighted from all components)
- **Grade Conversion:**
- 93-100: A (Exemplary)
- 90-92: A- (Excellent)
- 87-89: B+ (Very Good)
- 83-86: B (Good)
- 80-82: B- (Satisfactory)
- Below 80: Revisit and resubmit

PROGRAM ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

#

Total Points Across All Components

1. Literary Masterworks: 500 points
2. Critical Essays & Research: 700 points
3. Exam Preparation: 800 points
4. Scholarly Writing: 700 points
5. Cultural & Global Literacy: 800 points
6. Capstone Project: 1000 points (scaled from 100)

****Grand Total: 4500 points****

#

Final Grade Calculation

- A: 4185-4500 (93-100%)
- B: 3600-4184 (80-92%)
- C: 3150-3599 (70-79%)
- D: 2700-3149 (60-69%)
- F: Below 2700 (Below 60%)

#

Additional Factors

- **Attendance:** Required 85% minimum (39 of 46 class sessions)
- **Participation:** Ongoing assessment across all components
- **Growth Mindset:** Progress and effort considered in final evaluation

PROGRAM RESOURCES

#

Required Texts (Provided)

- Selected novels and plays (excerpts or full texts)
- Poetry anthologies
- AP Literature prep books
- MLA/APA style guides

#

Online Resources

- College Board AP Classroom
- Khan Academy (SAT prep)
- JSTOR and academic databases (library access)
- Purdue OWL (writing resources)
- Poetry Foundation
- Project Gutenberg (public domain texts)

#

Supplementary Materials

- Writing handbook
- Literary terms glossary
- Grammar reference guide
- Citation quick guide
- Exam strategy sheets

SUPPORT STRUCTURES

#

Office Hours

- Before program: 3:00-3:30 PM (Mon/Wed)
- After program: 5:30-6:00 PM (Tue/Thu)
- By appointment

#

Writing Center Access

- Peer tutors available
- Essay review services
- Citation help
- Grammar workshops

#

College Counseling Connection

- Application essay support
- Resume building
- Scholarship opportunities
- College reading list preparation

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

#

By Program Completion, Students Will:

1. Read and analyze college-level texts independently
2. Write sophisticated analytical and research essays
3. Use MLA and APA citation formats correctly
4. Demonstrate test-readiness for AP Lit and SAT/ACT
5. Engage with diverse literary voices and perspectives
6. Produce a professional academic portfolio
7. Articulate growth as readers, writers, and thinkers
8. Feel confident entering college English courses

#

Success Metrics

- 80% of students score 3+ on AP Literature exam
- 90% of students show measurable writing improvement
- 100% of students complete capstone portfolio
- Average SAT Reading score increase: 50-100 points
- High college acceptance rates
- Student satisfaction: 90%+ positive feedback

CONTACT INFORMATION

****Program Director:**** [Name]

****Email:**** [Email]

****Phone:**** [Phone]

****Office:**** [Location]

****Office Hours:**** [Schedule]

****For emergencies or urgent questions, please email or call.****

This curriculum guide is designed to be flexible and can be adjusted based on student needs, available resources, and program goals. Regular assessment and feedback will ensure continuous improvement.

****Last Updated:**** October 26, 2025

****Version:**** 1.0