

Final Project

This is the largest assignment of the course and serves as the basis for the poster session presentation you will share on March 9th. **You will write a seminar paper or ten-lesson curriculum unit that focuses on the teaching of literature in a middle school, high school, or college English classroom.**

For the sake of this assignment, we are defining the “teaching of literature” broadly. This can include the teaching of any text (e.g. canonical, young adult, digital, graphic), genre (e.g. epic, short story, novel, drama), thematic concern (e.g. “The American Dream,” “Sameness and Difference,”), or essential question (e.g. “What does it mean to be human?,” “Do new technologies improve our lives?,” “Is war ever just?”). The process of writing this paper or designing this unit plan will provide you with opportunities to engage in pedagogical thinking and demonstrate your understanding of effective strategies for the teaching of literature.

Project Components:

1. Rationale: This statement theorizes your pedagogical approach, justifies your unit/paper focus and selection of text(s), addresses the needs of your audience, clearly lists your objectives (of what the *students* should be able to accomplish), and explains the kinds of assessments you will use to determine if these objectives have been achieved.
2. Teaching Strategies:
 - a. If you are developing a curriculum unit, it should include ten detailed lesson plans and ten unit artifacts¹ (e.g. evaluation sheets, graphic organizers, print/online resources, quizzes, lecture notes, exams, writing assignments, group projects) that identify the following:
 - i. Lesson topics
 - ii. Objectives/Essential questions
 - iii. Teaching strategies/procedures (e.g. anticipatory set, modeling, guided/independent practice)
 - iv. Assessments (e.g. reading checks, essays, tests)
 - b. If you are writing a paper, you should address specific strategies for teaching the selected literature, articulating appropriate topics, objectives, questions, procedures, and assessments.
3. A list of works cited or consulted (at least ten)

A draft of your paper (at least 3 pages) or curriculum unit rationale, sample lesson plan, and sample unit artifact are due for workshop participation and written feedback on March 9th. This is the “poster session” listed on the syllabus.

The entire project (which should be revised based on the feedback of your peers) is due by May 11th.

¹ You are not expected to provide every artifact you refer to in your lesson plans.