# PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF EDISON TOWNSHIP DIVISION OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

# AP LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

Length of Course:	Term_
Elective/Required:	Required
School:	High Schools
Student Eligibility:	Grade 12
Credit Value:	5 Credits (Honors)
Date Approved:	11/22/10

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Modifications will be made to accommodate IEP mandates for classified students.

#### STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

This course engages students in the careful reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature. The course includes intensive study of representative works from various genres and periods, concentrating on works of recognized literary merit. Reading in an AP course is both wide and deep. The approach to the close reading involves these components: the experience of literature, the interpretation of literature, and the evaluation of literature; all three are important in AP Literature and Composition. Not only will students read actively, they will read more carefully and deliberately. Along with the aspects mentioned about reading, writing in an integral part of the AP Literature and Composition course. Writing assignments focus on the critical analysis of literature and include expository, analytical, and argumentative essays. Writing instruction includes attention to developing and organizing ideas in clear, coherent, and persuasive language. Other aspects such as precision, correctness, and style are equally important. Throughout the course, emphasis is placed on helping students develop stylistic maturity. Every student enrolled in AP Literature and Composition is expected to take the AP exam in May.

#### **Introduction**

The most precious resource teachers have is time. Regardless of how much time a course is scheduled for, it is never enough to accomplish all that one would like. Therefore, it is imperative that teachers utilize the time they have wisely in order to maximize the potential for all students to achieve the desired learning.

High quality educational programs are characterized by clearly stated goals for student learning, teachers who are well-informed and skilled in enabling students to reach those goals, program designs that allow for continuous growth over the span of years of instruction, and ways of measuring whether students are achieving program goals.

#### The Edison Township School District Curriculum Template

The Edison Township School District has embraced the backward-design model as the foundation for all curriculum development for the educational program. When reviewing curriculum documents and the Edison Township curriculum template, aspects of the backward-design model will be found in the stated enduring *understandings/essential questions, unit assessments,* and *instructional activities.* Familiarization with backward-design is critical to working effectively with Edison's curriculum guides.

#### Guiding Principles: What is Backward Design? What is Understanding by Design?

"Backward design" is an increasingly common approach to planning curriculum and instruction. As its name implies, "backward design" is based on defining clear goals, providing acceptable evidence of having achieved those goals, and then working 'backward' to identify what actions need to be taken that will ensure that the gap between the current status and the desired status is closed.

Building on the concept of backward design, Grant Wiggins and Jay McTighe (2005) have developed a structured approach to planning programs, curriculum, and instructional units. Their model asks educators to state goals; identify deep understandings, pose essential questions, and specify clear evidence that goals, understandings, and core learning have been achieved.

Program based on backward design use desired results to drive decisions. With this design, there are questions to consider, such as: What should students understand, know, and be able to do? What does it look like to meet those goals? What kind of program will result in the outcomes stated? How will we know students have achieved that result? What other kinds of evidence will tell us that we have a quality program? These questions apply regardless of whether they are goals in program planning or classroom instruction.

The backward design process involves three interrelated stages for developing an entire curriculum or a single unit of instruction. The relationship from planning to curriculum design, development, and implementation hinges upon the integration of the following three stages.

Stage I: Identifying Desired Results: Enduring understandings, essential questions, knowledge and skills need to be woven into curriculum publications, documents, standards, and scope and sequence materials. Enduring understandings identify the "big ideas" that students will grapple with during the course of the unit. Essential questions provide a unifying focus for the unit and students should be able to answer more deeply and fully these questions as they proceed through the unit. Knowledge and skills are the "stuff" upon which the understandings are built.

Stage II: Determining Acceptable Evidence: Varied types of evidence are specified to ensure that students demonstrate attainment of desired results. While discrete knowledge assessments (e.g.: multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, short answer, etc...) will be utilized during an instructional unit, the overall unit assessment is performance-based and asks students to demonstrate that they have mastered the desired understandings. These culminating (summative) assessments are authentic tasks that students would likely encounter in the real-world after they leave school. They allow students to demonstrate all that they have learned and can do. To demonstrate their understandings students can explain, interpret, apply, provide critical and insightful points of view, show empathy and/or evidence self-knowledge. Models of student performance and clearly defined criteria (i.e.: rubrics) are provided to all students in advance of starting work on the unit task.

Stage III: Designing Learning Activities: Instructional tasks, activities, and experiences are aligned with stages one and two so that the desired results are obtained based on the identified evidence or assessment tasks. Instructional activities and strategies are considered only once stages one and two have been clearly explicated. Therefore, congruence among all three stages can be ensured and teachers can make wise instructional choices.

At the curricular level, these three stages are best realized as a fusion of research, best practices, shared and sustained inquiry, consensus building, and initiative that involves all stakeholders. In this design, administrators are instructional leaders who enable the alignment between the curriculum and other key initiatives in their district or schools. These leaders demonstrate a clear purpose and direction for the curriculum within their school or district by providing support for implementation, opportunities for revision through sustained and consistent professional development, initiating action research activities, and collecting and evaluating materials to ensure alignment with the desired results. Intrinsic to the success of curriculum is to show how it aligns with the overarching goals of the district, how the document relates to district, state, or national standards, what a high quality educational program looks like, and what excellent teaching and learning looks like. Within education, success of the educational program is realized through this blend of commitment and organizational direction.

# **Content Outline: Reading**

Enduring Understanding: All students will know and understand how to read and comprehend complex literary and informational texts independently and proficiently.

	Mastery Objectives	Instructional Strategies and Conceptual Understanding	Formative and Summative Assessments
CC	SS: RL – 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,9,10; RI – 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10; L 5-1,2,3,4,5,6	The teacher: Incorporates reading every day.	Student performance is assessed formatively and summatively in various ways to attain mastery learning.
1.	Students will identify the purposes and genres of literature and explain their relation to literary structures.	Reads alouds to students to model fluent reading. Creates a supportive, scholarly atmosphere by encouraging	Class work Homework
2.	Students will explain how the	one another's attempts to derive meaning from their reading.	Quizzes
	elements of literature are related to each other and to the whole.	Provides a variety of genres including:	Tests
3.	Students will recognize the conventions of different genres and	<ul><li>a. prose fiction,</li><li>b. prose non-fiction,</li><li>c. poetry and drama.</li></ul>	Inquiry Papers
	periods of time, and identify the effects of the authors' choices.	Draws supplementary work together with selected readings	Bookmarks
4.	Students will recognize the main	into units organized around historical periods and/or themes.	Post-It Note Strategies
	ideas and purposes in prose, poetry, and drama.	Incorporates silent reading for a specific purpose.	KWL
5.	Students will be able to distinguish	Incorporates opportunities for oral and written responses to reading.	Rubrics
	the uniqueness of a writer's work from the conventional standards of	Creates a supportive, scholarly atmosphere by encouraging	Synthesis Essays
	form and structure.	students' attempts to analyze the structure of their reading.	Reports
6.	Students will evaluate the value and validity of a writer's message in	Draws supplementary work together with selected readings to address conventions that influence structures.	Projects
	relation to its historical, social, or cultural context.	Provides a variety of opportunities representing various	SQ3R
		structures of prose including chronology, spatial relations, sequence of subordinate ideas, etc.	Close Reading
		Models "close reading" techniques, including structural	Notetaking Activities
		analyses of text, paragraphs, and sentences.	

# Content Outline: Reading (Cont.)

Enduring Understanding: All students will know and understand how to read and comprehend complex literary and informational texts independently and proficiently.

	Mastery Objectives	Instructional Strategies and Conceptual Understanding	Formative and Summative Assessments
7.	Students will know the various definitions and standard usage of literary terminology, and students	Creates a supportive, scholarly atmosphere by encouraging students to use the language of literature.	Various Notebook Designs Annolighting Text
	will be aware of connotations and shades of meaning that derive from context.	Introduces the vocabulary necessary to describe the human experience in order to be precise about an author's tone, attitude, and point of view.	Annotating Text District Final Exams
8.	Students will acquire a vocabulary of terms available for describing	Provides an opportunity to identify the effects of diction, images, and figures of speech.	Open-Ended Responses
	recurrent linguistic patterns: parts of speech, types and parts of		Performance Assessment
	sentences, and tropes (forms of figurative language).		Pairs/Groups
9.	Students will recognize and		Independent Work
0.	appreciate how an author has achieved a particular effect through		Teacher Reflection
	the manipulation of language.		Standardized Tests
			Active Reading Strategies
			Mini-Lesson Benchmarks
			Differentiated Instruction Lessons
			Story Mapping
			Impromptu Writing
			Graphic Organizers

# **Content Outline: Writing**

Enduring Understanding: All students will write routinely over extended time frames (time to locate textual evidence, to reflect, and to revise) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of tasks, purposes, and audiences.

		loner time names (a single sitting of a day of two) for a range of	Formative and Summative
	Mastery Objectives	Instructional Strategies and Conceptual Understanding	Assessments
СС	:SS: W - 1,2,4,5,6,9,10;	The teacher:	Student performance is assessed formatively and summatively in
	L 5-1,2,3,4,5,6	Assigns a variety of tasks such as formal essays, journal	various ways to attain mastery learning.
1.	Students will be able to write an interpretation of a piece of literature	writing, reader responses, etc.	Class work
	that is based on a careful observation of the work's textual details, considering structure, style,	Models, illustrates, or teaches pre-writing activities that help generate information, discover and explore ideas, and clarify the writing task.	Homework
	and themes.		Quizzes
2.	Students will subordinate parts to an effective whole and create	Models, illustrates, or teaches the concept of purpose, audience, and voice of the text adapted by purpose.	Tests
	appropriate transitions between them.	Provides class time for students (individually/with partners/in small groups) to pre-write, to talk, and think about possible	Inquiry Papers
		approaches to writing, and to gather information.	Bookmarks
3.	Students will gather information and ideas, discover patterns, and	Creates real context for writing which may include "imagined"	Post-It Note Strategies
	develop a thesis statement.	AP readers, and other potential professional/academic readers.	KWL
4.	Students will select and arrange information and ideas effectively for a given purpose.	Provides written models of writing that students are expected to emulate.	Rubrics
_			Synthesis Essays
5.	Students will communicate ideas and experiences in an intellectually sophisticated fashion.	Illustrates or teaches a variety of revision strategies that enables students to rework content/organization/style in ways that best suit a writer's purpose and audience.	Reports
_			Projects
6.	Students will develop and strengthen writing by planning, revising, editing, and rewriting.	Plans time for peer revision that includes a focus on content and on the techniques that were most effective in conveying it.	SQ3R
			Close Reading
		Provides access to a variety of materials from which students may generate ideas.	Notetaking Activities
		Models, illustrates, or teaches various patterns of organization, e.g. chronological, spatial, sequential, etc.	Various Notebook Designs

# **Content Outline: Writing (Cont.)**

**Enduring Understanding:** All students will write routinely over extended time frames (time to locate textual evidence, to reflect, and to revise) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of tasks, purposes, and audiences.

	Mastery Objectives	Instructional Strategies and Conceptual Understanding	Formative and Summative Assessments
7.	Students will identify and use a variety of literary terms endemic to	Models, illustrates, or teaches how to revise thesis statements with sharpened focus.	Annolighting Text
	the discipline.		Annotating Text
8.	Students will shape language in a variety of rhetorical patterns so that	Model, illustrates, or teaches patterns of diction, images, figures of speech, and the shape and length of sentences and paragraphs.	District Final Exams
	sentence structure, diction, and		Open-Ended Responses
	figures of speech serve purpose, mode, and audience.	Models or provides examples of coordination and subordination of ideas in units of discourse, including the sentence, paragraph, essay, and book.	Performance Assessment
9.	Students will explain how literary		Pairs/Groups
	choices produce intended effects.	Provides opportunity for peer evaluation, applying the AP rubric developed by the College Board.	Independent Work
		Provides opportunities for peer response to student writing,	Teacher Reflection
		including commenting on syntax and word choice. Provides opportunities to imitate the styles and structures of established writers.	Standardized Tests
			Active Reading Strategies
		Defines and models the effective use of a variety of literary terms.	Mini-Lesson Benchmarks
		Provides opportunities for students to re-create an author's	Differentiated Instruction Lessons
		style/patterns, either parodying content or emulating it, so that students learn about the interrelations between form and content and expand, through practice, their own range of	Story Mapping
		stylistic options.	Impromptu Writing
		Prepares students for the AP Literature Exam by requiring them to use appropriate literary terminology to discuss an author's writing.	Graphic Organizers

# Content Outline: Speaking and Listening

Enduring Understanding: All students will adapt speech to a variety of contexts and communicative tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate.

Mastery Objectives	Instructional Strategies and Conceptual Understanding	Formative and Summative Assessments
CCSS: SL4 - 1,3,4,5,6; L 5-1,2,3,4,5,6	The teacher: Provides opportunities to draw on evidence from the texts to	Student performance is assessed formatively and summatively in various ways to attain mastery learning.
<ol> <li>Students will initiate and particip effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-o one, in groups, and teacher-led) AP literature topics, texts, and issues.</li> </ol>	evoke thoughtful, well-reasoned exchanges of ideas. Promotes civil discussions.	Class work Homework Quizzes
<ol> <li>Students will build on others' ide and express their own clearly an persuasively.</li> </ol>	d conclusions.	Tests Inquiry Papers
<ol> <li>Students will evaluate a speaker thesis, reasoning, use of evidence and literary analysis assessing t stance, premises, links among ideas, word choice, points of emphasis, and tones used.</li> </ol>	e, enhance understanding of findings, reasoning, and evidence	Bookmarks Post-It Note Strategies KWL Rubrics
4. Students will present information findings, and supporting evidence conveying a clear and distinct perspective, such that listeners of follow the line of reasoning, organization, development, substance, and style that are appropriate to purpose, audience and a range of formal and inform tasks.	e, an <sub>e,</sub>	Synthesis Essays Reports Projects SQ3R Close Reading Notetaking Activities Various Notebook Designs

# Content Outline: Speaking and Listening (Cont.)

Enduring Understanding: All students will adapt speech to a variety of contexts and communicative tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate.

Mastery Objectives	Instructional Strategies and Conceptual Understanding	Formative and Summative Assessments
		Annolighting Text
		Annotating Text
		District Final Exams
		Open-Ended Responses
		Performance Assessment
		Pairs/Groups
		Independent Work
		Teacher Reflection
		Standardized Tests
		Active Reading Strategies
		Mini-Lesson Benchmarks
		Differentiated Instruction Lessons
		Story Mapping
		Impromptu Writing
		Graphic Organizers

Prose/Reading		
Essential Questions	Enduring Understandings	
Concepts About Print		
<ul> <li>How does understanding a text's structure help me better understand its meaning?</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Understanding of a text's features, structures, and characteristics facilitate the reader's ability to make meaning of the text.</li> </ul>	
Decoding and Word Recognition		
<ul> <li>How do I figure out a word I do not know?</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Readers use language structure and context clues to identify the intended meaning of the words and phrases as they are used in the text.</li> </ul>	
Fluency		
How does fluency affect comprehension?	<ul> <li>Fluent readers group words quickly to help them gain meaning from what they read.</li> </ul>	
Reading Strategies (before, during, and after reading)		
<ul> <li>What do readers do when they do not understand everything in a text?</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Good readers employ strategies to help them understand text. Strategic readers can develop, select, and apply strategies to enhance their comprehension.</li> </ul>	
Vocabulary and Concept Development		
<ul> <li>Why do readers need to pay attention to a writer's choice of words?</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Words powerfully affect meaning.</li> </ul>	
Comprehension Skills and Response to Text		
<ul> <li>How do readers construct meaning from text?</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Good readers compare, infer, synthesize, and make connection (text to text, text to world, text to self) to make the text personally relevant and useful.</li> </ul>	
Inquiry and research		
Why conduct research?	<ul> <li>Researchers gather and critique information from different sources for specific purposes.</li> </ul>	

#### Writing and Language All students will write in clear, concise, organized language that varies in content and form for different audiences and purposes. **Enduring Understandings Essential Questions** Writings as a Process (prewriting, drafting, revising, editing, post-writing) How do good writers express themselves? Good writers develop and refine their ideas How does process shape the writer's for thinking, learning, communicating, and product? aesthetic expression. Writing as a Product (resulting in a formal product or publication) How do writers develop a well written Good writers use a repertoire of strategies product? that enables them to vary form and style, in order to write for different purposes, audiences, and contexts. Mechanics, Spelling, and Handwriting How do rules of language affect Rules, conventions of language, help communication? readers understand what is being communicated. Writing Forms, Audiences, and Purposes (exploring a variety of forms) Why does a writer choose a particular form A writer selects a form based on audience of writing? and purpose. **Speaking and Listening** All students will speak in clear, concise, organized language that varies in content and form for different audiences and purposes. All students will listen actively to information from a variety of situations. **Essential Questions** Enduring Understandings Discussion How can discussion increase our Oral discussions helps to build connections • knowledge and understanding of an to others and creates opportunities for idea(s)? learning. **Questioning (Inquiry) and Contributing** When is it appropriate to ask questions? Questions and contributing help speakers How do speakers express their thoughts convey their message, explore issues and clarify their thinking. and feelings? Word Choice How does the choice of words affect the • A speaker's choice of words and style set message? a tone and defines the message.

Essential Questions	Enduring Understandings
Oral Presentation	
<ul> <li>How does a speaker communicate so others will listen and understand the message?</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>A speaker selects a form and organizational pattern based on the audience and purpose.</li> </ul>
Active Listening	
Can one hear but not listen?	<ul> <li>Listening is the process of receiving, constructing meaning from, and responding to spoken and nonverbal messages.</li> </ul>
Listening Comprehension	
<ul> <li>How does a listener understand a message</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Effective listeners are able to interpret and evaluate increasingly complex messages.</li> </ul>
Media I	_iteracy
All students will access, view, evaluate, and respon	d to print, nonprint, and electronic texts and
resources.	
Essential Questions	Enduring Understandings
Constructional Meaning	
What's the media message?	<ul> <li>People experience the same media message differently.</li> </ul>
Visual and Verbal Messages	
<ul> <li>What values, lifestyles, and points of view are represented in, or omitted from media messages?</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Media have embedded values and points of views.</li> </ul>
Living with Media	
What affects media choice?	<ul> <li>Media choice is affected by personal experience and sense of need.</li> </ul>

#### Public Schools of Edison Township Divisions of Curriculum and Instruction

Draft 14

## **Essential Instructional Behaviors**

Edison's Essential Instructional Behaviors are a collaboratively developed statement of effective teaching from pre-school through Grade 12. This statement of instructional expectations is intended as a framework and overall guide for teachers, supervisors, and administrators; its use as an observation checklist is inappropriate.

#### 1. Planning which Sets the Stage for Learning and Assessment

#### Does the planning show evidence of:

- a. units and lessons directly related to learner needs, the written curriculum, the New Jersey Core Content Curriculum Standards (NJCCCS), and the Cumulative Progress Indicators (CPI)?
- b. measurable objectives that are based on diagnosis of learner needs and readiness levels and reflective of the written curriculum, the NJCCCS, and the CPI?
- c. lesson design sequenced to make meaningful connections to overarching concepts and essential questions?
- d. provision for effective use of available materials, technology and outside resources?
- e. accurate knowledge of subject matter?
- f. multiple means of formative and summative assessment, including performance assessment, that are authentic in nature and realistically measure learner understanding?
- g. differentiation of instructional content, processes and/or products reflecting differences in learner interests, readiness levels, and learning styles?
- h. provision for classroom furniture and physical resources to be arranged in a way that supports student interaction, lesson objectives, and learning activities?

#### 2. Observed Learner Behavior that Leads to Student Achievement

#### Does the lesson show evidence of:

- a. learners actively engaged throughout the lesson in on-task learning activities?
- b. learners engaged in authentic learning activities that support reading such as read alouds, guided reading, and independent reading utilizing active reading strategies to deepen comprehension (for example inferencing, predicting, analyzing, and critiquing)?
- c. learners engaged in authentic learning activities that promote writing such as journals, learning logs, creative pieces, letters, charts, notes, graphic organizers and research reports that connect to and extend learning in the content area?
- d. learners engaged in authentic learning activities that promote listening, speaking, viewing skills and strategies to understand and interpret audio and visual media?
- e. learners engaged in a variety of grouping strategies including individual conferences with the teacher, learning partners, cooperative learning structures, and whole-class discussion?
- f. learners actively processing the lesson content through closure activities throughout the lesson?
- g. learners connecting lesson content to their prior knowledge, interests, and personal lives?
- h. learners demonstrating increasingly complex levels of understanding as evidenced through their growing perspective, empathy, and self-knowledge as they relate to the academic content?
- i. learners developing their own voice and increasing independence and responsibility for their learning?
- j. learners receiving appropriate modifications and accommodations to support their learning?

3. Reflective Teaching which Informs Instruction and Lesson Design

Does the instruction show evidence of:

- a. differentiation to meet the needs of all learners, including those with Individualized Education Plans?
- b. modification of content, strategies, materials and assessment based on the interest and immediate needs of students during the lesson?
- c. formative assessment of the learning before, during, and after the lesson, to provide timely feedback to learners and adjust instruction accordingly?
- d. the use of formative assessment by both teacher and student to make decisions about what actions to take to promote further learning?
- e. use of strategies for concept building including inductive learning, discovery-learning and inquiry activities?
- f. use of prior knowledge to build background information through such strategies as anticipatory set, K-W-L, and prediction brainstorms?
- g. deliberate teacher modeling of effective thinking and learning strategies during the lesson?
- h. understanding of current research on how the brain takes in and processes information and how that information can be used to enhance instruction?
- i. awareness of the preferred informational processing strategies of learners who are technologically sophisticated and the use of appropriate strategies to engage them and assist their learning?
- j. activities that address the visual, auditory, and kinesthetic learning modalities of learners?
- k. use of questioning strategies that promote discussion, problem solving, and higher levels of thinking?
- I. use of graphic organizers and hands-on manipulatives?
- m. creation of an environment which is learner-centered, content rich, and reflective of learner efforts in which children feel free to take risks and learn by trial and error?
- n. development of a climate of mutual respect in the classroom, one that is considerate of and addresses differences in culture, race, gender, and readiness levels?
- o. transmission of proactive rules and routines which students have internalized and effective use of relationship-preserving desists when students break rules or fail to follow procedures?

# 4. Responsibilities and Characteristics which Help Define the Profession

#### Does the teacher show evidence of:

- a. continuing the pursuit of knowledge of subject matter and current research on effective practices in teaching and learning, particularly as they tie into changes in culture and technology?
- b. maintaining accurate records and completing forms/reports in a timely manner?
- c. communicating with parents about their child's progress and the instructional process?
- d. treating learners with care, fairness, and respect?
- e. working collaboratively and cooperatively with colleagues and other school personnel?
- f. presenting a professional demeanor?