

EDCI 479-001 Advanced Methods of Teaching Secondary English

Fall 2014

Instructor: Dr. Laura Horvath
Date and Time: Thursdays 7:20 – 10:00

Class Location: Thompson 1018
Email: lhorvath@gmu.edu
Office hours: by appointment

Course Materials Online

The Blackboard site can be found at http://courses.gmu.edu
Use the same login as your Mason email

Blackboard 9.1 will be used for the course. Access Blackboard by following these steps:

- 1. Go to http://mymason.gmu.edu
- 2. Login using your NETID and password.
- 3. Click on the "Courses" tab.
- 4. Double-click on our course number under the "Blackboard 9.1 Course" heading

Course Description:

Prerequisite: EDCI 469. This is the second course in a two-part sequence of courses for preservice English teachers. This course guides students in working effectively with national and local standards for teaching secondary English.

Course Outcomes and Objectives:

This course focuses on best practices in English education including the use of technology and meeting the needs of diverse learners and English language learners as called for by the Standards of Learning (SOLs) for Virginia Public Schools and English/language arts standards as outlined by National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE). This course is designed to support pre-service and in-service secondary school teachers as they:

- A strong focus on literature and the role of writing in teaching literature.
 - Innovation, Collaboration, NCTE standards: 3.0, 3.2.3
- Examination of literary interpretations and rhetoric.
 - Innovation, Social Justice, NCTE standards 3.2.3, 3.3.3
- Consideration of English language arts instruction with a broad focus on literacy and literacy skills.
 - Research-based Practice, NCTE standards 3.4, 3.5
- Inquiry-based research and discussions using multiple literacies and multi-modal lenses.
 - Research-based Practice, NCTE standards 3.5, 3.7
- Practice planning and implementing lessons on English language instruction that are taught within the context of language arts
 - Innovation; NCTE Standards 3.2, 4.0
- Practice planning and implementing activities and discussions, which involve students in active, reflective responses to literature within a diverse community of learners
 - Collaboration; NCTE Standard 3.2
- Observe and analyze teaching practices in light of course readings and discussions
 - Research-Based Practice; NCTE Standards 2.0, 3.7
- Describe national, state, and local standards for English and use them as the underlying basis of classroom curriculum and instruction
 - Research-Based Practice: NCTE Standard 1.0
- Design a coherent unit of instruction and effective daily lessons, which reflect current research, theory and practice in English/language arts
 - Research-Based Practice, Innovation; NCTE Standards 3.0, 3.3
- Utilize knowledge of adolescence, language, learning, teaching, and diversity to plan and adapt instruction, which maximizes learning for all students in today's diverse schools
 - Research-Based Practice, Social Justice; NCTE Standards 3.7, 4.0
- Develop assessments appropriate for identified curricular objectives and related to national, state, and local standards
 - Research-Based Practice; NCTE Standard 1.0
- Incorporate media/technology into the curriculum to enhance the teaching and learning of English
 - Innovation; NCTE Standard 3.6
- Reflect upon and critically analyze one's own and observed teaching practices in light of related theory and research in English education
 - Research-Based Practice; NCTE standard 3.7

Relationship to Program Goals and Professional Organizations

EDCI 479 is designed to encompass a critical exploration and analysis of current developments in the teaching of secondary English with an emphasis on student-centered methods that encourage the integrated study of language arts. Areas of study include reading and writing development, the writing process, the processes involved in reading literary texts, reader response theories and research, oral

language and listening skill development, as well as formative and summative techniques for assessing pupil of diverse learners as called for by the *Standards of Learning for Virginia Public Schools* and *National English Education Standards* and as outlined by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE), and the International Reading Association (IRA).

College Expectations and University Honor Code

The Graduate School of Education (GSE) expects that all students exhibit professional behavior and dispositions:

Commitment to the profession

Promoting excellent practice

Excellence in teaching and learning

Advancing the profession

Engagement in partnerships

Commitment to honoring professional ethical standards

Fairness

Integrity

Honesty

Trustworthiness

Confidentiality

Respect for colleagues and students

Commitment to key elements of professional practice

Belief that all individuals have potential for growth and learning

Persistence in helping individuals succeed

High standards

Safe and supportive learning environments

Systematic planning

Intrinsic motivation

Reciprocal, active learning

Continuous, integrated assessment

Critical thinking

Thoughtful, responsive listening

Active, supportive interactions

Technology-supported learning

Research-based practice

Respect for diverse talents, abilities and perspectives

Authentic and relevant learning

Commitment to being a member of a learning community

Professional dialogue

Self-improvement

Collective improvement

Reflective practice

Responsibility

Flexibility

Collaboration

Continuous, life-long learning

Commitment to democratic values and social justice

Understanding systemic issues that prevent full participation
Awareness of practices that sustain unequal treatment of unequal voice
Advocate for practices that promote equity and access
Respects the opinion and dignity of others
Sensitive to community and cultural norms
Appreciates and integrate multiple perspectives

College of Education and Human Development Statement of Expectations

All students must abide by the following:

- Professional Dispositions Students are expected to exhibit professional behaviors and dispositions at all times. See http://gse.gmu.edu/facultysaffres/profdisp.htm. for a listing of these dispositions
- Students must adhere to the George Mason University Honor Code (see http://oai.gmu.edu/the-mason-honor-code/).
- Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with the George Mason University Office of Disability Services (ODS) and inform their instructor, in writing, at the beginning of the semester (see http://ods.gmu.edu).
- Students must follow the university policy for the Responsible Use of Computing (see http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/1301gen.html).
- Please note that plagiarism encompasses the following (from the Mason Honor Code online at http://mason.gmu.edu/~montein/plagiarism.htm.):
 - o Presenting as one's own the words, the work, or the opinions of someone else without proper acknowledgement.
 - Borrowing the sequence of ideas, the arrangement of material, or the pattern of thought of someone else without proper acknowledgement
- Paraphrasing involves the taking of someone else's ideas and putting them in your own words. When you paraphrase, you need to cite the source using APA format.
- When material is copied word for word from a source, it is a direct quotation. You must use quotation marks (or block indent the text) and cite the source.
- Electronic tools (e.g., SafeAssign) may be used to detect plagiarism if necessary.
- Plagiarism and other forms of academic misconduct are treated seriously and may result in disciplinary action.
- Students are responsible for the content of university communications sent to their George
 Mason University email account and are required to activate their account and check it
 regularly. All communication from the university, college, school, and program will be sent to
 students solely through their Mason email account.
- Students must follow the university policy that all sound emitting devices shall be turned off during class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.
- The George Mason University Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) staff consists of
 professional counselors who offer a wide range of services to enhance students' personal
 experience and academic performance (see http://caps.gmu.edu)
- The George Mason University Writing Center staff provides a variety of resources and services intended to support students as they work to construct and share knowledge through writing (see http://for)

For additional information on the College of Education and Human Development, Graduate School of Education, please visit our website (see http://gse.gmu.edu)

Required Texts

NOTE: Some of the YA novels will NOT be found in the GMU Bookstore with other course texts, but are available at any retail bookstore (including Amazon):

Atwell, N. (1999). *In the Middle: New Understandings About Writing, Reading and Learning* (2nd ed.). Heinemann. ISBN 978-0867093742

Christenbury, L. (2006). *Making the Journey: Being and Becoming a Teacher of English Language Arts* (3rd ed.). Heinemann. ISBN 978-0325008172

Romano, T. (2000). Blending Genre, Altering Style: Writing Multigenre Papers. Heinemann. ISBN 978-0867094787

O'Brien, P. (2006). Shakespeare Set Free: Teaching Romeo and Juliet, Macbeth and Midsummer Night's Dream. Simon and Schuster. ISBN 978-0743288507

Alexie, S. (2009). The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian. Little, Brown Books for Young Readers.

Lit Circle Books: NOTE – do NOT purchase these yet. You will only need ONE of these titles, and book selections will be made in class.

Hopkins, Ellen. Crank. Margaret K. McElderry Books. 2008.

Satrapi, Marjane. Persepolis. Pantheon. 2004.

Saenz, Bejamin Alire. *Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe*. Simon and Schuster Books for Young Readers. 2012.

Shusterman, Neil. Everlost. Simon and Schuster Books for Young Readers. 2009.

Recommended Texts

Burke, J. (2008). *The English Teacher's Companion: A Complete Guide to Classroom, Curriculum and the Profession.* Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann. (from Methods I)

Smagorinsky, P. (2007). *Teaching English By Design: How to Create and Carry Out Instructional Units*. Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann. (from Methods I)

Students are also recommended to obtain a student membership in either the National Council of Teachers of English or the International Reading Association and to subscribe to one of the following journals:

- English Journal
- Voices from the Middle

Journal of Adolescent and Adult Literacy

Resources

George Mason library: http://library.gmu.edu What Kids Can Do: www.whatkidscando.org

Greater Washington Reading Council: www.gwrc.net
Virginia State Reading Association: www.vsra.org
International Reading Association: www.reading.org
National Reading Conference: www.nrconlin.org
National Council of Teachers of English: www.ncte.org

International Visual Sociology Association: www.visualsociology.org

Figment: http://figment.com

Movella: http://www.movellas.com/

The Poetry Foundation: http://www.poetryfoundation.org/

Course Assignments

Attendance and Participation.

Attendance at each class session and field experience is critical and required. Your attendance, thoughtfulness, preparedness, clarity and active sharing of responsibility for our classroom community will affect your grade. You are expected to read and keep notes on class material, complete all assignments on time, and contribute both as a listener and speaker in class discussions. Absences and tardies, both in class and fieldwork assignments will impact your grade. Two tardies are equal to one absence. If unavoidable circumstances prevent attendance at a class, please call the instructor in advance and contact a classmate to discuss missed assignments. Please turn off all cell phones, computers and pagers when conducting fieldwork assignments and during class.

Wonder Notebook. Field Experience notes, learning reflections and assignments, some completed in class and others as homework, will enable students to explore and/or practice the ideas presented in class sessions and in the required readings; these assignments should reflect a careful consideration of the course content. The format of assignments will be varied and designed to reflect the range of possibilities recommended for use in today's secondary classrooms. Wonder Notebook assignments should be brought to all class sessions; they will be used as the basis of class discussions and activities will be shared periodically with classmates and the instructor. Your Wonder Notebook can be set up in any fashion that suits you, but should include sections for (1) Field Experience Observation Notes and Reflections, (2) in-class responses to various prompts, (3) reflections on assigned course readings, and (4) notes and drafts of your MGRP; at a minimum. Feel free to add other sections as you deem useful.

In the **Field Experience** section of your **Wonder Notebook**, please consider the following questions as *possible* foci for observation and reflection:

Curriculum and Instruction in Writing. Write a brief description of the approach to the teaching of writing used by your cooperating teacher and/or the school. As part of this assignment, (a) peruse the school/district program of study. How is the writing curriculum described? What strategies are recommended? What approach to the teaching of writing seems to be reflected in the document? (b) Discuss with your cooperating teacher his/her own approaches to writing instruction. What strategies

- does he/she recommend? (c) At least once during the semester (and preferably more often), arrange to observe a writing lesson/activity. Observe the teacher's instructional procedures very carefully; if possible, discuss the objectives, procedures, and planned assessment with the teacher.
- o **Student Writing**. Arrange one of the teachers in your field placement to read through a class set of student writings. (a) Describe the content of the writing: what was the assignment? How much time, in-class, and/or at-home, was allotted for writing? What format/genre of writing was done? Are these drafts or revised versions? (b) Based on what you see in these papers, assess the strengths and needs of these student writers. What do these student writers do well? What difficulties are evident in their writing? Using what you have learned from your reading about writing instruction, try to identify patterns in the student writing. What instructional "next steps" would you recommend for these writers? (c) How does this teacher record/evaluate student writing? (If the cooperating teacher approves it and provides guidelines, try responding to or grading the student writing. (d) Make a copy of at least one student paper (with the students' names deleted), and try writing comments on it.
- Curriculum and Instruction in Language Skills. Write a brief description of the approach to language study used by your cooperating teacher and/or the school. As part of this assignment, (a) peruse the school/district program of study. How is the study of language described? What strategies are recommended? What approach to the teaching of language seems to be reflected in the document? (b) Discuss with your cooperating teacher his/her own approaches to language study. What strategies does he/she recommend? (C) At least once during the semester, arrange to observe a skills lesson/activity. Observe the teacher's instructional procedures very carefully; if possible, discuss the objectives, procedures and planned assessment with the teacher.
- O Curriculum and Instruction in Reading/Literature. Write a brief description of the approach to the teaching of reading/literature used by your cooperating teacher and/or the school. As part of this assignment, (a) peruse the school/district program of study. How is the literature curriculum described? What strategies are recommended? What approach to the teaching of reading/literature seems to be reflected in this document? (b) Discuss with your cooperating teacher his/her own approaches to literature instruction. What strategies does he/she recommend? (c) At least once during the semester (and preferably more often), arrange to observe a reading/literature lesson/activity. Observe the teacher's instructional procedures very carefully; if possible, discuss the objectives, procedures, and planned assessment with the teacher.
- Works of Literature in the Curriculum. What works of literature are included as part of the curriculum at your assigned school? Who teaches what books at what grade level? In order to get a sense of the literature taught at your assigned school, ask for a copy of the departments' book list, browse the English department's book room, and/or interview the department chair and/or your cooperating teacher. Are there any newly-purchased books? If so, what are they and how/why were they selected? Are

- multicultural works included in the curriculum? How about adolescent literature? How many works are assigned each academic year? How often do students read self-selected works?
- o **Teacher Interview**. At some point during the semester, please arrange a convenient time for an interview /discussion with the cooperating teacher, department chair and/or the school administrator in charge of the English department. Find out as much as you can about the profession. Why did this teacher become an English teacher? Why does he/she stay in the field? What are the most rewarding aspects of teaching English? What are the most discouraging aspects? What important issues face English teachers today? What are the biggest challenges for the future? What suggestions does this teacher have for you as you enter the profession? Write a summary of your interview and what you learned from it.

Fieldwork Form

Although you will use your Wonder Notebook to capture what is happening in your field placement during your observations, you are expected to submit the following separately.

• SUMMARY OF FIELD ASSIGNMENT. Please organize a typed record of (a) basic school and classroom information about your assigned field placement, (b) a list of the dates and times of your visits, and (c) a brief description of your observations and activities. (Note: Although you will probably want to take notes during or after each class you observe, these notes are not required for EDCI 469). Please ask your cooperating teacher(s) to sign your Summary. On possible format:

School Information: Description of school-based information obtained from school website, your observations, and informal discussions with teachers.

Department Information: *Teachers, courses offered, meetings, issues, approaches*. Teachers/Classes Observed: *Brief listing/description of teachers and classes observed.*

Date	Arrival	Departure	Observation/participation	# of
				hours
Monday	8am	12pm	Observed English 9 discussing a Cheever short story	4
10/30			(Mrs. Smith)	hours
			Assisted with peer response groups in creative writing	
			class (Mr. Gomez)	

Multi Genre Research Paper (MGRP). This paper is an exploration of an aspect of Teaching English in secondary settings. Modeled on the multi-genre research paper designed by Tom Romano and also found in many published works, your research paper will consist of at least five different *original* genres such as autobiography, personal vignette, narrative, research essay, poetry, fiction, drama, summary, informal letter, news story, essay, etc. Course texts can be used as sources, but a minimum of 7 additional readings from NCTE/IRA publications or relevant texts/journals must also be cited in the paper. You will also present an overview of your MGRP topic to the class in a 10 minute presentation

that will include an infographic and a one page handout listing the key components of your topic on one side, and a bibliography of sources on the back. Additional information will be provided in class.

Think-Tac-Toe Response to *The Absolutely True Story of a Part-Time Indian*. Details of this assignment will be provided in class.

Fishbowl Midterm. Students will be called upon to demonstrate their knowledge and developing philosophies regarding research in the field of English/language arts instruction via an oral midterm exam that will be conducted "fishbowl" style. More information about this teaching and assessment technique will be presented in class.

Literature Circle Prezi. As a culminating activity to our study of Lit Circle novels, each Lit Circle *group* will work together to create and present a Prezi on their book. Prezi's must include the following components:

- An originally created (by your group), recorded book trailer on the book
- Critical reviews of the book
- Ideas for teaching the book
- Potential text pairings that could be taught in conjunction with the book

Teacher Identity Reflective Paper

Blend reflections on your evolving sense of identity as a teacher with the field experience notes captured in your Wonder Notebook into a reflective paper. This paper should incorporate where you began to think of yourself as a teacher, what you have observed in the field (and your reflections on these observations), things we've read, written and discussed, any outside research (including your MGRP) - into a final reflection on how these things have lead to the point you are in your evolution as a teacher at the end of the semester – and where you think you're headed in that evolving sense of yourself as teacher as you head into your own classroom.

Unit Plan. As a culminating project for this course each student will use the "backwards design" process to develop a plan for teaching a six week long, literature-based unit which actively involves students in meaningful learning; carefully individualizes to accommodate the diverse strengths and needs of students; effectively integrates reading, writing and oral language; and provides authentic assessment. Please include at least one 'paired text' as a part of the unit. The unit must include at least one literary work(s), **and center on a** *theme*, as well as build on the strengths and needs of a diverse student population.

NOTE: a genre, author, or single title are <u>NOT</u> themes.

Long-range plans will include:

- a narrative overview of the unit, its overall goals and objectives, the basic time frame, general
 procedures, a description of the intended learners, and planned assessment techniques
 (including at least one authentic assessment),
- 2. Unit calendar (assume block scheduling, where classes meet for approximately 80 minutes a day, every other day),
- 3. Specific daily lesson plans, including support materials should be included for any *three* blocklength lessons from the unit (which shall include at least one lesson emphasizing literature

- study, one incorporating writing, and one incorporating grammar/vocabulary instruction); each making clear connections between stated objectives and planned assessment. NCTE and SOL standards must also be included.
- 4. The unit plan must also include a rational in which you explain your use of theory and research to argue for an approach to instruction that focuses on students' varied uses of language; both oral and written.

To evaluate how well these unit plans meet the NCTE standards for effective planning, the units will be scored using an evaluation rubric based on those standards, a rubric attached to this syllabus.. The unit plan assignment is aimed at helping English education candidates consider how their students' varied uses of language and no-print media can be related to the study of literature and visual and written composition. As such the English evaluation rubric focuses on NCTE Standards 2.4, 2.5, 3.1, 3.2, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7, 4.1, 4.2, and 4.8.

WORK NOT COMPLTED OR FAILURE TO UPLOAD TO TASKSTREAM BY DUE DATE WILL RESULT IN AN "F" IN THE COURSE. FINAL PRODUCT IS DUE TO TASK STREAM BY MIDNIGHT ON ______.

The Unit Plan assignment **ONLY** will be graded using a system developed by Lisa Green, English department chair at Robinson Senior Secondary School. Eligible, *complete* Unit Plans may be revised and/or edited and resubmitted for a "higher grade" up until the final deadline. Each *complete* Unit Plan handed in will receive either (1) R/E (needs to be revised, edited and resubmitted), (2) R (needs to be revised and resubmitted), (3) E (needs editing before resubmission), or (4) A (accepted – no revision required). *Incomplete Unit Plans handed in on the initial due date or late will not be eligible for revision and resubmission*. Eligible Unit Plans may be revised and resubmitted as many times as you wish until the final deadline. At that point of "final deadline," codes become letter grades (A = A, E = B, R = C, and R/E = D) and no more resubmissions will be considered.

All other course assignments must be considered final drafts and submitted no later than the posted due dates listed in the course schedule. Late and/or incomplete assignments will not be given full credit; in the case of extenuating circumstances, approval must be granted in advance by the instructor.

The grading system for graduate courses at GMU is as follows: A+, A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, F. In this course, the following system will be used:

A = 90 - 93 B = 80 - 83

Grades of "A" in the course are earned by students who do exemplary, distinguished work. The A+, A, A- student participates actively and thoughtfully in class; completes all required reading assignments

and related assignments in a timely and professional way; shows coherence and thoroughness in lesson and unit planning; completes well-organized, well-written papers; and consistently demonstrates the ability to make connections between theory and practice.

EDCI 479/669 assignments are weighted as follows:

Attendance and Participation	5
Wonder Notebook	5
Multi-Genre Research Paper	20
Multi Genre Research Infographic Presentation	10
Think-Tac-Toe	10
Group Lit Circle Prezi	15
Unit Plan	20
Teacher Identity Reflective Paper	10

Schedule of Topics and Assignments

Appendix A

NOTE: Schedule is subject to change depending on student need and other factors. Students will be notified via email and in class as soon as possible if changes are made.

Date	Topic	Assignments/Readings due NEXT class
8/28	Introduction/Course overview, Review	Christenbury, chapter 1
1	of WNB, History as an English student	Romano, Chapters 1 - 4
		Read first ½ of The Absolute True Diary of a Part-
		Time Indian
		Reflect in your WNB on readings
İ		Teacher Identity WNB entry
9/4	Lit Circles on MGRP, Intro to the MGRP	Smagorinsky, chapters 8 - 11
	Assignments, Lit Circle Book Tasting	Romano, chapters 5 - 13
2	and Selection, Lit Circle Set-	Reflect in your WNB on reading
	Up/Assignment	MGRP topic proposal due via email no later than
		9/5 at midnight
		Once your topic is approved, work on MGRP
Í		(bring copies of at least two original crots to class
<u> </u>		for peer review)
9/11	Cooperative Learning Strategies, Unit,	 Christenbury, chapter 5
	Developing PRGs (Team Building),	 Smagorinsky chapters 12 - 14
3	Announce LC Groups/Roles	 Romano, chapters 14 – 17
İ		 Reflect in your WNB on the readings
İ	PRGs: MGRP	 Unit theme/text proposal due via email no later
İ		than 9/14
İ		 Once Unit theme/text is approved, work on Unit
İ		Planning (bring Unit Plan overview draft to class
		for peer review)
		 Create an SSR on a scene from Alexie's novel and
		bring it to class to share with a small group
		 Work on MGRP (bring copies of at least two new
		original crots and/or repetend to class for PRG)
9/18	Critical Lenses, Symbolic Story	Prepare for Lit Circle #1
	Representation, Unit Planning. Think-	 Read second ½ of The Absolute True Diary of a
4	Tac-Toe	Part-Time Indian
	DDG 440DD II II 51	Begin working on Think-Tac Toe Assignment
	PRG: MGRP, Unit Plan Overview Draft	Work on Unit Plan (bring copies of Unit Calendar
		to class for PRG)
		Complete MGRP due next week
9/25	Poetry Invitations to Learn, Lit Circle #1	 Atwell chapters 1 – 4
_		Romano, chapters 18 - 22
5	PRGs: Unit Plan Calendar Draft	Prepare for Lit Circle #2
	D	Work on Unit Plan (bring copies of one lesson plan
	Due: MGRP	for PRG)
		Complete Think-Tac-Toe, due next class

10/2	Discussion Strategies, Annotations, the	Christenbury, chapter 8
	Literary Essay Assignment, Lit Circle #2	Romano, chapters 23 - 24
6		Atwell, chapters 5 - 9
	PRGs: Unit Plan Lesson	 Reflect in your WNB on the readings, and be
		prepared to engage in discussion on these
		chapters next week.
	Due: Think-Tac-Toe	 Using The Absolute True Diary of a Part-Time
		Indian, attempt a feminist or Marxist reading
		response in your WNB, and reflect on the impact
		that has on your reading
		Prepare Lit Circle #3
		 Continue working on Unit Plan (bring copies of a
		new lesson plan draft to class for PRG)
10/9	Swimming Practice, Lit Circle #3	 Finish Atwell in preparation for midterm
		 Using the Alexie novel, try an alternate reading
7	PRG: Unit Plan Lesson	(feminist or Marxist) from last week's reading
		 Reflect in your WNB on the readings.
10/16	Atwell Fishbowl Midterm	 Christenbury, chapter 9
		 Reflect in your WNB on the reading.
8		Prepare Lit Circle #4
		Unit Plan due next week
10/23	Technology in the English Class, Lit	 Read "Gutenberg Elegies" handed out in class
	Circle #4, Writing Workshop	 Reflect in WNB on readings.
9		Prepare Lit Circle #5
	PRG: Lit Circle Group Prezi Planning	 Look for a text to pair with your Lit Circle book
		and be prepared to share with your Lit Circle
	Due: Unit Plan	group next class
10/30	Visual Literacy/Film in the English	 Christenbury, chapters 2 and 3
	classroom, Lit Circle #5	Work on Lit Circle Group Prezi, due next class
10		Work on Teacher Identity Paper Draft
	PRG: Lit Circle Group Prezi	 Bring copies of Teacher Identity Reflective Paper
		for PRG
11/6	Lit Circle Group Prezi Presentations,	 Read the Romeo and Juliet chapter in
	Infographic Presentation Assignment	Shakespeare Set Free
11		 Reflect in WNB on readings.
	PRG: Teacher Identity Reflective Paper	Come to class dressed comfortably
11/13	Performance techniques to teach	Burke, chapter 5
	drama, Slam Poetry	 Reflect in your WNB on readings.
12		 Work on MGRP Infographic Presentation
		 Work on Teacher Identity Reflective Paper
		 Bring copies of Unit revisions, Infographic or
		Teacher Identity drafts for PRG

11/20	Socractic Seminar, Sustained Silent Reading/Choice, Mandalas,	Christenbury, chapter 10 Peffect in your WNR on readings
12	PRG: Revisions, Infographics, Teacher Identity Reflective Paper	 Reflect in your WNB on readings. Work on Teacher Identity ReflectivePaper (bring copies to next class for peer review) Complete your MGRP Infographic Presentation (due beginning next class) All Unit Plan revisions due no later than next week's class
11/27	No Cl	ass - Thanksgiving
12/4	MGRP Infographic Presentations	Christenbury, chapter 11
13	PRG: Teacher Identity Reflective Paper	 Reflect in WNB on readings Complete Teacher Identity Reflective Paper due next week
	Due: Unit Plan Revisions	
12/11	MGRP Infographic Presentations, Course Wrap-up	
14	Due: Teacher Identity Reflective Paper	

Unit Plan Appendix B

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY

College of Education and Human Development Secondary Education Program

EDCI 479/669, "Advanced Methods of Teaching English in the Secondary School"

Unit Plan Description and Assessment

Aligned with 2012 NCTE Standards for Initial Preparation of Teachers of Secondary English Language Arts (Grades 7–12)

As a culminating project for this course, each student will use the "backwards design" process to develop a plan for teaching a literature-based unit which actively involves students in meaningful learning; carefully individualizes to accommodate the diverse strengths and needs of students; effectively integrates reading, writing, oral language, and language study; and provides for authentic assessment. The unit should revolve around a theme and build on the strengths and meets the needs of a diverse student population. Long-range plans will include a narrative overview of the unit, its overall goals and objectives, the basic time frame, general procedures, a description of the intended learners, planned assessment techniques, the backwards planning chart, and a unit calendar. Specific daily lesson plans, including all support materials, should be included for any five block-length lessons from the unit; each lesson plan should make clear connections between stated objectives and planned assessment. The unit's organization and methodological approaches should reflect current research and practice in the teaching of English/language arts.

To evaluate how well these unit plans meet the NCTE standards for effective planning, the EDCI 479/669 instructors score the unit plans using an evaluation rubric based on the standards; a rubric follows the description of this unit plan. The unit plan assignment is aimed at helping English education candidates consider how their students' varied uses of language and non-print media can be related to the study of literature and visual and written composition.

Unit Plan Format

- Overview of Unit
- Unit Plan Pre-Organizer/Backwards Planning Chart (handwritten notes are fine)
- Unit Calendar (word-processed, with enough detail that a substitute teacher could understand purposes, daily plans, and connections; five daily plans highlighted in some way)
- Five 80-90 minute block-length lesson plans from the unit, which must include all of the

following elements:

- o connection of daily lesson plan with larger unit
- o instructional objective(s) in learner terms
- inclusion of a specific Virginia Standards of Learning benchmark
- o planned assessment(s)—including both informal (formative) and formal (summative)
- o lesson procedures, detailed enough for a substitute teacher to teach from
- o follow-up plans (homework or summary of next day's plan)
- list of lesson materials, resources, and equipment
- o all support materials attached

Suggestions for Planning the Unit

Follow these suggested steps:

- 1) Select a focus: Begin by selecting a focus for your unit plan, which must revolve in some way around the teaching of literature. Consider your own knowledge of and passions for literature; in addition, take a look at the literature curriculum for local-area public schools. Your unit plan must be thematic. A thematic unit often includes multiple works of literature with similar themes (i.e. a novel supplemented with a couple of short stories and some poetry). Examples of theme-organized units: "Surviving Against the Odds," "The Search for Self," or "The Power of Place" (which could be used with *The House on Mango Street*, combined with short stories, personal narratives, and poetry in which place, home, and/or setting are key elements).
- 2) Select a target student population: Browse the Virginia SOLs, and select what you believe to be an appropriate grade level for your unit. Note: In "real life" teaching, you would, of course, begin with this step, as you would want to base your instructional planning on your knowledge of actual students and the required curriculum/SOLs for those students.
- 3) Consider what other texts connect to your core text thematically. Strive to include a wide range of texts and media, including poetry, prose, film, music, art, fiction and nonfiction.
- 4) Develop a set of essential questions and enduring understandings, knowledge, and skills for the unit: What are the major learnings to be gained from your unit? What will you expect your students to know and be able to do at the end of the unit? How will your unit create a learning environment in which all students can engage in the learning? In what ways will you use the pieces of your unit to help students become familiar with their own and others' cultures, and understand the role of arts and the humanities on their lives? Examples that could be used in connection with units revolving in some way around *The House on Mango Street*: What is the role of "place" in our lives? Why is it that humans often experience the conflicting desires to escape their pasts and yet also be drawn back home? Who is Esperanza? What are her key experiences, feelings, and goals as she moves through her early adolescence? How does her development parallel the development of adolescents in general? What is a vignette? Who is Sandra Cisneros, and how would you describe her writing style? What is imagery? How does Cisneros use imagery in *The House on Mango Street*, and how can I incorporate imagery in my own writing?

- 5) Consider possible ways to assess student learning: Once you have identified essential questions/enduring understandings and key knowledge and skills for your unit, try to generate possible ways of assessing what your students have learned. Based on the suggested understandings listed above in #3, examples might include a literary analysis essay on the writing style of Sandra Cisneros, a final project that asks small groups of students to discuss the role of place in literature and life, or the writing of a personal narrative containing strong imagery.
- 6) Work with the backwards planning unit pre-organizer chart: Now, begin to get more detailed in your thinking. Try filling out the unit plan pre-organizer chart with possible essential questions, enduring knowledge and skills, instructional goals in multiple strands of the language arts, SOL's, benchmarks, and assessments that might become the basis of the unit. List more than you will need/use in the end. Remember that once you identify planned assessments, you will need to do some task analysis to consider what knowledge and skills students will need in order to successfully complete your assessments. Note: The term "benchmarks" refers to the bulleted lists that appear under the larger, more holistic SOL statements.
- 7) Generate a long list of possible teaching ideas that will support your students' learning of your unit's key goals and their successful achievement on your unit's major assessments: Here's where you can begin to really think about the details of instruction. Get online for some lesson plan ideas. Observe your fieldwork teachers carefully for model lessons. Look back on course notes for activities we've talked about or actually done during class sessions. Remember your own best experiences from school. Be creative! List all sorts of possible ideas for instructional activities, ways to adapt instruction to meet the needs of your targeted age group and ability level, methods for incorporating media and technology, etc. You'll probably end up with many more ideas and possibilities on this pre-planning chart than you will ever be able to use in your unit.
- 8) Create a unit calendar: Once you've done lots of idea generation, it's time to try and see how it can all fit together in an organized way. Here's a hint for an approach to preliminary calendar planning: (a) create a generic Monday through Friday monthly calendar on a large piece of paper, (b) write possible ideas for daily activities and assessments on small "stickies," (c) move your stickies around on your calendar until you begin to get a sense of a workable plan. You will almost certainly end up abandoning some of the ideas on your stickies; remember that it is far more important to teach for understanding than to teach for coverage.
- 9) Write the required Overview of the Unit: Once your calendar is done, follow the steps below to write a brief overview of the unit. Note: No section below needs to be longer than five sentences, and you can just *list* elements and examples where appropriate.
 - Unit Focus: Identify the broad focus of your unit (i.e. Author Study of Sandra Cisneros, Genre Study: Drama); see #1above.
 - Intended Grade Level: Identify the grade level or course for which you have geared your
 - Narrative Overview of Unit: Provide a 3-5 sentence overview describing your unit plan; assume that your reader is another teacher who needs a quick summary of the key components of your unit.

- Essential Questions/Enduring Understandings: List your unit's essential question(s) and enduring knowledge and skills; what are the most important learnings your students will gain from this unit? Provide a picture of why this unit is important; see #3 above.
- Major Goals and Objectives: List the major instructional goals/objectives; include the key Standards of Learning addressed in your unit.
- Major Unit Assessments: List the major assessments planned for your unit; these major assessments should provide a way of assessing whether your students met the unit's major instructional objectives.
- Task Analysis for Major Assessments: Think carefully about the knowledge and skills your students will need in order to perform satisfactorily on your major assessments. List the knowledge/skills required here; and then keep in mind that the identified knowledge/skills must be taught as part of the unit or have been previously taught and learned.
- List of Planned Instructional Procedures: List the major instructional procedures and activities planned for your unit. Check to make sure that your list represents multiple strands of the language arts and various teaching methodologies.
- Description of Intended (or Imagined) Students: Here, describe your target students for the unit. Again, grade level and/or course? Characteristics of your learners? Background knowledge of your learners?
- Possible Unit Adaptations to Meet Strengths and Needs of Learners: In this section, describe some ways in which you could adapt your unit to meet the needs of your students. Consider factors related to motivation, culture, language, special needs, literacy issues, etc.
- 10) Write lesson plans: By now, you've got a good overall sense of your unit represented in both your Unit Overview and your Unit Calendar. Now it's time to begin working on more detailed plans for daily lessons (using the format we've been using for written microteaching lesson plans). Peruse your unit calendar, and select days for which you will now develop detailed plans. You must submit the equivalent of two weeks of fully-developed daily plans. *Please put an asterisk on each day of your unit calendar for which you develop a specific daily lesson plan.* Of the required lesson plans, at least one fully articulated plan must include activities designed to help students with language-related knowledge and/or skills integrated in such a way as to demonstrate your understanding of best practice methodology.

Overview of the Unit
Unit Focus:
Intended Grade Level:
Narrative Overview of Unit:
Essential Question(s)/Enduring Understanding(s):
Major Goals and Objectives (including reference to key SOLs):
Major Unit Assessments:
Task Analysis for Major Assessments:
List of Planned Instructional Procedures:

Estimated Time Frame for Unit:	
Description of Intended (or Imagined) Learners:	
Possible Unit Adaptations to Meet Strengths and Needs of Learners:	

EDCI 479/669, "Advanced Methods of Teaching English in the Secondary School"

Unit Plan Description and Assessment

Aligned with 2012 NCTE Standards for Initial Preparation of Teachers of Secondary English Language Arts (Grades 7–12)

Initial Pr	eparation of Teachers of Seconaary Eng	zusn Language Arts (Graaes 7–12)
Name of candidate		Date	

NA/ Not Assessable/ IA Initial Assessment		Description		
		Given the nature of the assessment, the candidate cannot reasonably demonstrate complete understanding or mastery of the given standard. The standard is included in this rubric in order to introduce candidates to its relevance and to provide them with an initial, formative self, peer, and/or instructor assessment of their proficiency with this standard. An "NA/IA" score does not count toward the calculation of the mean score for this assessment.		
0	Unacceptable	The candidate exhibits little, or irrelevant, evidence of meeting the standard for planning, teaching, and student learning. Specifically, a score of zero (0) is given when there is no evidence of the teacher candidate's attempt to meet a particular NCTE standard, OR the attempt is "unacceptable," as defined by NCTE.		
1	Marginal	The candidate exhibits insufficient evidence of performance in relation to essential knowledge, skills, dispositions required by the standard. Provides fundamental evidence of attainment but does not yet meet minimum expectations for planning, teaching, and student learning. Specifically, a score of one (1) is given when the teacher candidate meets the "acceptable" level of criteria for a NCTE standard.		
2	Meets Expectations	The candidate exhibits performance that meets the standard in essential knowledge, skills and dispositions. Provides evidence of sound work, usually with multiple examples of achievement which substantially meet basic expectations for planning, teaching, and student learning. Specifically, a score of two (2) is given when the teacher candidate meets the "target" level of criteria for a NCTE standard.		
3	Exceeds Expectations	The candidate exhibits mastery of the knowledge, skills and dispositions required by the standard. Achieves an exceptional level of performance in relation to expectations of the program and generally provides multiple examples of excellence in performance for planning, teaching, and student learning. Specifically, a score of three (3) is given when the teacher candidate exceeds the "target" level of criteria for a NCTE standard.		

Notes

- Required elements are in bold, italicized, and shaded; recommended elements are in plain, unshaded text
- Minimum mean rating of 2.0 (with at least a rating of <u>1.0</u> for each measured standard) required for licensure.

Content Knowledge

I. Candidates demonstrate knowledge of English language arts subject matter content that specifically

includes literature and multimedia texts as well as knowledge of the nature of adolescents as readers.

Criteria	Levels	Exceeds expectations (3)	Meets expectation (2)	Marginal (not met) (1)	Unacceptable (0)	Score
Element 1: Candi knowledgeable a print and non-pri media texts, class contemporary text young adult—the a range of world historical tradition and the experient different genders and social classes able to use literato interpret and range of texts.	int texts— int texts, sic texts and exts, including at represent literatures, cons, genres, aces of s, ethnicities, s; they are ery theories	 Candidate consistently and creatively exhibits knowledge of a variety of texts that represent range of world literatures, historical traditions, genres, and experiences of different genders, ethnicities, and social classes Candidate is consistently and creatively able to use literary theories to interpret and critique a range of texts Candidate identifies evidence of mastery of this element and/or articulates what evidence might look like in future classroom contexts 	 Candidate exhibits knowledge of a variety of texts that represent range of world literatures, historical traditions, genres, and experiences of different genders, ethnicities, and social classes Candidate demonstrates ability to use literary theories to interpret and critique a range of texts 	 Candidate exhibits limited knowledge of a variety of texts that represent range of world literatures, historical traditions, genres, and experiences of different genders, ethnicities, and social classes Candidate demonstrates limited ability to use literary theories to interpret and critique a range of texts 	 Candidate exhibits no knowledge of a variety of texts that represent range of world literatures, historical traditions, genres, and experiences of different genders, ethnicities, and social classes Candidate demonstrates no ability to use literary theories to interpret and critique a range of texts 	
Element 2: Candicknowledgeable all adolescents read make meaning the interaction with renvironments.	bout how texts and nrough	 Candidate consistently and creatively exhibits knowledge about how adolescents read texts and make meaning through interaction with media environments Candidate identifies evidence of mastery of this element and/or articulates what evidence might look like in future classroom contexts 	Candidate exhibits knowledge about how adolescents read texts and make meaning through interaction with media environments	Candidate exhibits limited knowledge about how adolescents read texts and make meaning through interaction with media environments	Candidate exhibits no knowledge about how adolescents read texts and make meaning through interaction with media environments	

Content Pedagogy: Planning Literature and Reading Instruction in ELA

III. Candidates plan instruction and design assessments for reading and the study of literature to promote learning for all students.

Criteria	Levels	Exceeds expectations (3)	Meets expectation (2)	Marginal (not met) (1)	Unacceptable (0)	Score
Element 1: Candidates use their knowledge of theory, research, and practice in English Language Arts to plan standards-based, coherent and relevant learning experiences utilizing a range of different texts—across genres, periods, forms, authors, cultures, and various forms of media—and instructional strategies that are motivating and accessible to all students, including English language learners, students with special needs, students from diverse language and learning backgrounds, those designated as high achieving, and those at risk of failure.		 Candidate consistently and creatively uses knowledge to plan standards-based, coherent, and relevant learning experiences utilizing range of texts Candidate consistently and creatively plans instructional strategies that are motivating and accessible to all students Candidate identifies evidence of mastery of this element and/or articulates what evidence might look like in future classroom contexts 	 Candidate uses knowledge to plan range of standards-based, coherent, and relevant learning experiences utilizing limited range of texts Candidate plans range of instructional strategies that are motivating and accessible to all students 	 Candidate uses knowledge to plan limited range of standards-based, coherent, and relevant learning experiences utilizing extremely limited range of texts Candidate plans limited range of instructional strategies that are motivating and accessible to all students 	 Candidate exhibits no knowledge of ability to plan standards-based, coherent, and relevant learning experiences utilizing range of texts Candidate exhibits no ability to plan instructional strategies that are motivating and accessible to all students 	
of authentic asse and informal, for summative) of re that demonstrate how learners dev interpretive, criti	rading and literature e an understanding of velop and that address cal, and evaluative ng, writing, speaking,	 Candidate consistently and creatively designs range of authentic assessments of reading and literature that demonstrate an understanding of how learners develop Candidate consistently and creatively designs range of authentic assessments of reading and literature that address interpretive, critical, 	 Candidate designs range of authentic assessments of reading and literature that demonstrate an understanding of how learners develop Candidate designs range of authentic assessments of reading and literature that address interpretive, critical, and evaluative abilities in 	 Candidate designs limited range of authentic assessments of reading and literature that demonstrate an understanding of how learners develop Candidate designs limited range of authentic assessments of reading and literature that address interpretive, critical, and 	 Candidate demonstrates no ability to design range of authentic assessments of reading and literature that demonstrate an understanding of how learners develop Candidate demonstrates no ability to design range of authentic assessments of reading 	

	 and evaluative abilities in reading, writing, speaking, listening, viewing, and presenting Candidate identifies evidence of mastery of this element and/or articulates what evidence might look like in future classroom contexts 	reading, writing, speaking, listening, viewing, and presenting	evaluative abilities in reading, writing, speaking, listening, viewing, and presenting	and literature that address interpretive, critical, and evaluative abilities in reading, writing, speaking, listening, viewing, and presenting	
Element 3: Candidates plan standards-based, coherent and relevant learning experiences in reading that reflect knowledge of current theory and research about the teaching and learning of reading and that utilize individual and collaborative approaches and a variety of reading strategies.	 Candidate consistently and creatively plans standards-based, coherent, relevant learning experiences in reading that reflect knowledge of current theory/research about teaching and learning of reading Candidate consistently and creatively plans standards-based, coherent, relevant learning experiences in reading that utilize individual and collaborative approaches and a variety of reading strategies Candidate identifies evidence of mastery of this element and/or articulates what evidence might look like in future classroom contexts 	 Candidate demonstrates ability to plan standards-based, coherent, relevant learning experiences in reading that reflect knowledge of current theory/research about teaching and learning of reading Candidate demonstrates ability to plan standards-based, coherent, relevant learning experiences in reading that utilize individual and collaborative approaches and a variety of reading strategies 	 Candidate demonstrates limited ability to plan standards-based, coherent, relevant learning experiences in reading that reflect knowledge of current theory/research about teaching and learning of reading Candidate demonstrates limited ability to plan standards-based, coherent, relevant learning experiences in reading that utilize individual and collaborative approaches and a variety of reading strategies 	 Candidate demonstrates no ability to plan standards-based, coherent, relevant learning experiences in reading that reflect knowledge of current theory/research about teaching and learning of reading Candidate demonstrates no ability to plan standards-based, coherent, relevant learning experiences in reading that utilize individual and collaborative approaches and a variety of reading strategies 	
Element 4: Candidates design or knowledgeably select appropriate reading assessments that inform instruction by providing data about student interests, reading	Candidate consistently and creatively designs or selects appropriate reading assessments that inform instruction by providing data about student interests, reading proficiencies, and	Candidate demonstrates ability to design or select appropriate reading assessments that inform instruction by providing data about student interests, reading	Candidate demonstrates limited ability to design or select appropriate reading assessments that inform instruction by providing data about student interests, reading	Candidate demonstrates no ability to design or select appropriate reading assessments that inform instruction by providing data about student interests,	

proficiencies, and reading	processes.	reading processes Candidate identifies evidence of mastery of this element and/or articulates what evidence might look like in future classroom contexts	proficiencies, and reading processes	proficiencies, and reading processes	reading proficiencies, and reading processes	
Element 5: Candidates plan instruction that incorporates knowledge of language—structure, history, and conventions—to facilitate students' comprehension and interpretation of print and non-print texts.		 Candidate consistently and creatively plans instruction that incorporates knowledge of language to facilitate students' comprehension and interpretation of texts Candidate identifies evidence of mastery of this element and/or articulates what evidence might look like in future classroom contexts 	Candidate plans instructional opportunities that incorporates knowledge of language to facilitate students' comprehension and interpretation of texts	 Candidate plans limited instructional opportunities that incorporates knowledge of language to facilitate students' comprehension and interpretation of texts 	Candidate demonstrates no ability to plan instruction that incorporates knowledge of language to facilitate students' comprehension and interpretation of texts	
Element 6: Candidates plan instruction which, when appropriate, reflects curriculum integration and incorporates interdisciplinary teaching methods and materials.	instruction integration Candidate instruction teaching m Candidate this eleme	consistently and creatively plans that reflects curriculum consistently and creatively plans that incorporates interdisciplinary nethods and materials identifies evidence of mastery of int and/or articulates what evidence like in future classroom contexts	 Candidate plans instructional opportunities that reflect curriculum integration Candidate plans instructional opportunities that incorporate interdisciplinary teaching methods and materials 	 Candidate plans limited instructional opportunities that reflect curriculum integration Candidate plans limited instructional opportunities that incorporate interdisciplinary teaching methods and materials 	 Candidate does not plan instructional opportunities that reflect curriculum integration Candidate does not plan instructional opportunities that incorporate interdisciplinary teaching methods and materials 	

Professional Knowledge and Skills

VI. Candidates demonstrate knowledge of how theories and research about social justice, diversity, equity,

student identities, and schools as institutions can enhance students' opportunities to learn in English Language Arts.

Criteria	Levels	Exceeds expectations (3)	Meets expectation (2)	Marginal (not met) (1)	Unacceptable (0)	Score
literacy instructio	h language arts and n that promotes critical engagement les related to erse, inclusive,	 Candidate consistently and creatively plans and implements instruction that promotes social justice Candidate consistently and creatively plans and implements instruction that promote critical engagement with complex issues related to maintaining a diverse, inclusive, equitable society Candidate identifies evidence of mastery of this element and/or articulates what evidence might look like in future classroom contexts 	Candidate plans and implements instructional opportunities that promote social justice Candidate plans and implements instructional opportunities that promote critical engagement with complex issues related to maintaining a diverse, inclusive, equitable society	 Candidate plans and implements limited instructional opportunities that promote social justice Candidate plans and implements limited instructional opportunities that promote critical engagement with complex issues related to maintaining a diverse, inclusive, equitable society 	 Candidate does not plan and implement instructional opportunities that promote social justice Candidate does not plan and implement instructional opportunities that promote critical engagement with complex issues related to maintaining a diverse, inclusive, equitable society 	
of theories and reinstruction responded in the control of the cont	nsive to students' d international hal identities (e.g., ender expression, age, ty, spiritual belief,	 Candidate consistently and creatively uses knowledge of theories and research to plan instruction responsive to students' local, national and international histories, identities, and dialects Candidate identifies evidence of mastery of this element and/or articulates what evidence might look like in future classroom contexts 	Candidate uses knowledge of theories and research to plan instructional opportunities that are responsive to students' local, national and international histories, identities, and dialects	Candidate uses knowledge of theories and research to plan limited instructional opportunities that are responsive to students' local, national and international histories, identities, and dialects	Candidate does not plan instructional opportunities that are responsive to students' local, national and international histories, identities, and dialects	