

Course Outline: English 12

12.1: The Power of Story: Inspiring Passion, Purpose, and Leadership Potential

Big Ideas - power of story, dignity, integrity, self-respect, power through conviction, responsibility, innovation

Anchor Text: Their Eyes Were Watching God - Hurston

Media: NPR sponsored website - This I Believe, Rural Voices CD

Final Assessment: This I Believe - Narrative Essay (Writing 2c), Letter of Request (Writing 2d, and Language User 4b), Comprehension of text and literary technique short answer questions (Reading 1a,1b), Website Creation (Technology 5a, 4a).

12.2: Shared Leadership: The Responsibility of the Electorate

Big Ideas - power of the people, rights and responsibilities of the electorate, use and abuse of power, shared leadership, valuing leaders and followers

Anchor Text: Animal Farm - Orwell / "1984" - Orwell

Media: Influence of commercials and propaganda, Tea Party clips and Vietnam protest clips

Final Assessment: Evaluation of media, agendas, and the response of the people (Reading 1c, 1d), This is Where I Stand persuasive presentation (Writing 2d, Speaker/Listener 3a, 3b, 4b, 5c), Comprehension of text and literary technique short answer questions (Reading 1a,1b)

12.3: Balance of Power: Leadership for "The American Dream"

Big Ideas - social mobility, influence of class, the art of argumentation and negotiation, learning from leaders in history, building an American Dream for the future

Anchor Text: The Great Gatsby - Fitzgerald

Media: "The Story of US" History Channel documentary (YouTube)

Final Assessment: What adaptations need to take place for success today? Informative essay and presentation (Writing 2b, Speaking/Listening 3b, Technology 5a), Comprehension of text and literary technique short answer questions (Reading 1a,1b)

12.4: Social Responsibility: Redefining the American dream in a World Context

Big Ideas: personal responsibility, plural, citizenship, vision, hope, wisdom, innovation, the conceptual age, making a difference, youth activism

Final Assessment: Challenge Based Learning, Senior Research Project (Reading 1e, Writing 2b, 2d, 2e, 2f, Language User 4a, Technology 5b).

12.5: Maintaining Balance and Integrity: The Responsibility of the Individual

Big Ideas: vigilance, balance, integrity, conviction, civil vs. moral law, conscience vs. authority, civic responsibility, civil disobedience, leadership

Anchor Text: *A Lesson Before Dying* - Gains

Media: Vietnam and Iraq war protest videos, Tea Party protest videos

Final Assessment: Who Am I? Digital Story (Writing 2d, Language User 4b, Technology 5c)

Challenge: At the end of each unit, you need to create a piece of media that addresses each topic. Possible formats:

- iMovie (or other program)
- PowerPoint presentation with spoken accompaniment
- Website or blog creation
- Essay (5 pages of thoughtful writing)
- Poetic Collection (length and number vary upon teacher approval)
- Multi-genre compilation
- Community out-reach project (get your message out to others)
- Letter writing campaign to seek action

Each unit end project will include two days with computers in school (except for the research project). All other work needs to be done outside of the classroom. You should try to vary the medium you choose in order to maximize the opportunity to express your ideas in different ways.

Total points for **each** project = 100 (except the research unit)