Unit 4: Dystopian Book Clubs

Content Area: **Language Arts Literacy**
Course(s): **English 9 Honors**
Time Period: **Marking Period 4**
Length: **15 Blocks**
Status: **Published**

Course Description

Credits: 5

Prerequisite:Placement

Grade: 9

This course is designed for the student who has developed an exceptional proficiency in critical reading and thinking as well as advanced writing skills. Students are challenged with numerous fictional literary readings from several genres and related non-fiction. In addition, students complete many writing assignments and extensive outside readings. Students explore the modes of writing on a more sophisticated level; journal writing will address students' creative talents while other assignments will be analytical in nature. Students use MLA and The BIG6 information literacy model to conduct problem-based research projects.

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Stage 1-- Desired Results

Unit Purpose: In Honors English 9, students will read multicultural literature and encounter various perspectives through a yearlong investigation into "Our View of the World and Ourselves." The purpose of this unit is to apply the NJSLS Reading Literature skills while reading dysoptian literature, considering how the dystopian genre functions, how to critically analyze a dystopian text, and how our individualism could be affected by a world gone awry. Students will read Ayn Rand's *Anthem* as a whole-class and perform higher-order thinking expressed through daily writing and speaking tasks. Following the whole-class novel, the NJSLS Reading Literature skills will spiral through students' self-selected dystopian book club texts. By the end of the unit, students will demonstrate application of the standards through a project and a final on-demand unit assessment.

Established Goals: New Jersey Student Learning Standards: English Language Arts Grades 9 and 10

Explicit:

RL.9-10.1.Cite strong and thorough textual evidence and make relevant connections to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferentially, including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain.

RL.9-10.2. Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze in detail its development over the course of the text, including how it emerges and is shaped and refined by specific details and provide an objective

summary of the text.

RL.9-10.3. Analyze how complex characters (e.g., those with multiple or conflicting motivations) develop over the course of a text, interact with other characters, and advance the plot or develop the theme.

RL.9-10.5. Analyze how an author's choices concerning how to structure a text, order events within it (e.g., parallel plots), and manipulate time (e.g., pacing, flashbacks) create specific effects (e.g. mystery, tension, or surprise).

RL.9-10.9.Analyze and reflect on (e.g. practical knowledge, historical/cultural context, and background knowledge) how an author draws on and transforms source material in a specific work (e.g., how Shakespeare treats a theme or topic from mythology or the Bible or how a later author draws on a play by Shakespeare).

SL.9-10.1. Initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with peers on grades 9–10 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.

Come to discussions prepared, having read and researched material under study; explicitly draw on that preparation by referring to evidence from texts and other research on the topic or issue to stimulate a thoughtful, well-reasoned exchange of ideas.

Collaborate with peers to set rules for discussions (e.g. informal consensus, taking votes on key issues, presentation of alternate views); develop clear goals and assessment criteria (e.g. student developed rubric) and assign individual roles as needed.

Propel conversations by posing and responding to questions that relate the current discussion to broader themes or larger ideas; actively incorporate others into the discussion; and clarify, verify, or challenge ideas and conclusions.

Respond thoughtfully to various perspectives, summarize points of agreement and disagreement, and justify own views. Make new connections in light of the evidence and reasoning presented.

Implicit:

RL.9-10.10. By the end of grade 9, read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poems at grade level text-complexity or above with scaffolding as needed.

W.9-10.10. Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of tasks, purposes, and audiences.

L.9-10.4. Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grades 9–10 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.

A.Use context (e.g., the overall meaning of a sentence, paragraph, or text; a word's position or function in a sentence) as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.

B.Identify and correctly use patterns of word changes that indicate different meanings or parts of speech (e.g., analyze, analysis, analytical; advocate, advocacy).

C.Consult general and specialized reference materials (e.g., dictionaries, glossaries, thesauruses), both print and digital, to find the pronunciation of a word or determine or clarify its precise meaning, its part of speech,

or its etymology.

D.Verify the preliminary determination of the meaning of a word or phrase (e.g., by checking the inferred meaning in context or in a dictionary).

L.9-10.5. Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.

A.Interpret figures of speech (e.g., euphemism, oxymoron) in context and analyze their role in the text.

B.Analyze nuances in the meaning of words with similar denotations.

Understandings:

Students will understand that…

Dystopian literature contains certain qualities that make it a genre. Readers consider these qualities to extract meaning.

Authors critique reality through fiction.

Satirical and allegorical works showcase ironies and injustices in humanity.

Essential Questions:

Have the forces of good and evil changed over time?

Is humankind inherently good or evil?

In a culture where we are bombarded with other people trying to define us, how do we make decisions for ourselves?

To what extent do the tenets of genre enable readers to critically analyze a text?

How do authors critique societies through dystopian fiction?

Students will know…

The tenets of dystopian literature.

How to apply literary theory to texts to generate meaning and consider the human condition.

How to draw text-to-world connections, considering how two mediums treat the same subject.

Central ideas and themes emerge, shift, and can be tracked over the course of a text.

Authors draw on source material.

Students will be able to...

Read texts at grade-level complexity or beyond.

Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and inferentially, and where the text leaves matters uncertain.

Think critically about a text and express thoughts through annotations and extended writing, using textual evidence for support.

Determine and analyze central ideas/ themes in texts, specifically in dystopian literature.

Analyze complex characters.

Determine and analyze allusions and text-to-world connections.

Academic Terminology -

dystopian v. utopian, apocalyptic, allusion, archetype, motif, disrupt, protagonist, antagonist, free will

Stage 2 -- Assessment Evidence

Formative Assessments:

Summative Assessments:

Reading On Demand Skills Book Club Discussion

Quizzes (3 "Minor" Assessments)- Demonstration of explicitly-taught skills through weekly Long Writes

Reader's Notebook (5 "Homework" student-selected entries/ Individual Conference Performance) - Five entries / collections of annotations over the course of the unit in which mini-lesson based reading skills are explored. Or, assessment based on individual conference rubric.

Stage 3 -- Learning Plan

Learning Activities:

- Introduce the standards, essential questions, assessment evidence and corresponding rubrics, and calendar of lessons to students.
- Establish each student's prior understanding of reading literature through a relatable hook (story, survey, posing question, debate etc.) and through individual conferences.
- Engage in whole-class reading of a novel and select appropriate text choices for self.
- Read Aloud from mentor texts.
- Think Alouds as part of mini-lessons in which teacher demonstrates the application of standards.
- Execute standards-based mini-lessons to develop skills and strategies.
- Identify and employ the key skills of reading novels at grade-level complexity.
- Engage in protected time for independent reading.
- Confer individually with teacher.
- Engage in small-group reading-skills-based instruction.
- Share and collaborate with Book Club.
- Experience activities with Book Club where critical reading, speaking, and listening skills are employed.
- Demonstrate understanding through various assessments.

Mini-Lessons

The 'power' motif

Archetypal Theory Part I:

Archetypal Theory disrupted Part II

Suspense as craft element

Book Club expectations/evaluation video

Allusions (Text-to-world connections)

Author's purpose: Systemic problems & Current events

Resources

Mentor Text

Anthem by Ayn Rand

Book Club Choices

1984 by George Orwell

The Road by Cormac McCarthy

On the Beach by Nevil Shrute

Ready Player One by Ernest Cline

V for Vendetta by Alan Moore & David Lloyd

Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury

Man in the High Tower by Philip K. Dick

On the Edge of Gone by Corrine Duyvis

All These Things I've Done by Gabrielle Zevin

Resources:

A Novel Approach by Kate Roberts

Book Love by Penny Kittle

180 Days by Penny Kittle & Kelly Gallagher

Readicide by Kelly Gallagher

The Common Core Companion by Jim Burke

No More Fake Reading by Berit Gordon

Breathing New Life into Book Clubs by Sonja Cherry & Dana Johansen

Dystopian Book Clubs, TCRWP Unit of Study

SAT Connection

Reading Rhetoric, The Official SAT Study Guide, p. 81

The SAT Essay, The Official SAT Study Guide, p. 173-221

Command of Evidence, The Official SAT Study Guide, p. 55

Words in Context, The Official SAT Study Guide, p. 61

Reading Information, The Official SAT Study Guide, p. 73

Reading Synthesis, The Official SAT Study Guide, p. 87

Writing & Language, The Official SAT Study Guide, p. 135-154

Vocabulary:

*Students self-select words, keeping a running vocabulary collection in their reader's/writer's notebook.

CONSIDERATIONS FOR DIVERSE LEARNERS

Accommodations and Modifications:

Students with Disabilities, English Language Learners,

Students at Risk of Failure, Students with 504s, Gifted & Talented Students

Strategies and Practices that Support Students with Disabilities:

- Use of visual and multisensory formats
- Use of assisted technology
- Use of prompts
- Modification of content and student products
- Testing accommodations
- Authentic assessments
- Small group/One to one
- Additional time
- Review of directions
- Student restates information
- Space for movement or breaks
- Extra visual and verbal cues and prompts
- Preferential seating
- Follow a routine/schedule

- Rest breaks
- Verbal and visual cues regarding directions and staying on task
- Checklists
- Immediate feedback

Strategies and Practices that Support Gifted & Talented Students:

- Adjusting the pace of lessons
- Curriculum compacting
- Inquiry-based instruction
- Independent study
- Higher-order thinking skills
- Interest-based content
- Student-driven instruction
- Real-world problems and scenarios
- Problem-based learning
- Interest-based research
- Authentic problem-solving

Strategies and Practices that Support English Language Learners:

- Pre-teaching of vocabulary and concepts
- Personal vocabulary
- Text-to-speech
- Simplified instructions
- Visual learning, including graphic organizers
- Use of cognates to increase comprehension
- Teacher modeling
- Pairing students with beginning English language skills with students who have more advanced

English language skills

- Scaffolding
- Word walls
- Sentence frames
- Think-pair-share
- Cooperative learning groups

Strategies and Practices that Support At-Risk Students:

- Guided notes and/or scaffold outline for written assignments
- Guided reading
- Introduce key vocabulary before the lesson
- Work in a small group
- The lesson taught again using a differentiated approach
- Allow answers to be given orally or dictated
- Use visuals / Anchor Charts
- Leveled texts according to ability
- Choice Boards
- Literature circles
- Project-based learning
- Graphic organizers
- Choice books
- Mini-Workshops to reteach or extend
- Jigsaw
- Goal-setting with students
- Use of a reading buddy
- Exploration based on interest

Strategies and Practices that Support Students with 504 Plans:

- Follow all the 504 plan modifications
- Text-to-speech/audio-recorded selections
- Amplification system as needed
- Leveled texts according to ability
- Fine motor skill stations embedded in rotation as needed
- Modified or constrained spelling word lists
- Provide anchor charts with high-frequency words and phonemic patterns

Standards

LA.RL.9-10.1	Cite strong and thorough textual evidence and make relevant connections to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferentially, including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain.
LA.RL.9-10.2	Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze in detail its development over the course of the text, including how it emerges and is shaped and refined by specific details and provide an objective summary of the text.
LA.RL.9-10.3	Analyze how complex characters (e.g., those with multiple or conflicting motivations) develop over the course of a text, interact with other characters, and advance the plot or develop the theme.
LA.RL.9-10.5	Analyze how an author's choices concerning how to structure a text, order events within it (e.g., parallel plots), and manipulate time (e.g., pacing, flashbacks) create specific effects (e.g., mystery, tension, or surprise).
LA.RL.9-10.9	Analyze and reflect on (e.g., practical knowledge, historical/cultural context, and background knowledge) how an author draws on and transforms source material in a specific work (e.g., how Shakespeare treats a theme or topic from mythology or the Bible or how a later author draws on a play by Shakespeare).
LA.RL.9-10.10a	By the end of grade 9, read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poems at grade level text-complexity or above with scaffolding as needed.
LA.W.9-10.10	Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of tasks, purposes, and audiences.
LA.SL.9-10.1	Initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with peers on grades 9–10 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.
LA.SL.9-10.1.A	Come to discussions prepared, having read and researched material under study; explicitly draw on that preparation by referring to evidence from texts and other research on the topic or issue to stimulate a thoughtful, well-reasoned exchange of ideas.
LA.SL.9-10.1.B	Collaborate with peers to set rules for discussions (e.g., informal consensus, taking votes on key issues, presentation of alternate views); develop clear goals and assessment

	criteria (e.g., student developed rubric) and assign individual roles as needed.
LA.SL.9-10.1.C	Propel conversations by posing and responding to questions that relate the current discussion to broader themes or larger ideas; actively incorporate others into the discussion; and clarify, verify, or challenge ideas and conclusions.
LA.SL.9-10.1.D	Respond thoughtfully to various perspectives, summarize points of agreement and disagreement, and justify own views. Make new connections in light of the evidence and reasoning presented.
LA.L.9-10.4	Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grades 9–10 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.
LA.L.9-10.4.A	Use context (e.g., the overall meaning of a sentence, paragraph, or text; a word's position or function in a sentence) as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.
LA.L.9-10.4.B	Identify and correctly use patterns of word changes that indicate different meanings or parts of speech (e.g., analyze, analysis, analytical; advocate, advocacy).
LA.L.9-10.4.C	Consult general and specialized reference materials (e.g., dictionaries, glossaries, thesauruses), both print and digital, to find the pronunciation of a word or determine or clarify its precise meaning, its part of speech, or its etymology.
LA.L.9-10.4.D	Verify the preliminary determination of the meaning of a word or phrase (e.g., by checking the inferred meaning in context or in a dictionary).
LA.L.9-10.5	Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.
LA.L.9-10.5.A	Interpret figures of speech (e.g., euphemism, oxymoron) in context and analyze their role in the text.
LA.L.9-10.5.B	Analyze nuances in the meaning of words with similar denotations.
LA.L.9-10.6	Acquire and use accurately general academic and domain-specific words and phrases, sufficient for reading, writing, speaking, and listening at the college and career readiness level; demonstrate independence in gathering vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.

Anchor Standards

LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R1	Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences and relevant connections from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R2	Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R3	Analyze how and why individuals, events, and ideas develop and interact over the course of a text.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R4	Interpret words and phrases as they are used in a text, including determining technical, connotative, and figurative meanings, and analyze how specific word choices shape meaning or tone.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R5	Analyze the structure of texts, including how specific sentences, paragraphs, and larger portions of the text (e.g., a section, chapter, scene, or stanza) relate to each other and the whole.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R6	Assess how point of view or purpose shapes the content and style of a text.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R7	Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse media and formats, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R8	Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, including the validity of

	the reasoning as well as the relevance and sufficiency of the evidence.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R9	Analyze and reflect on how two or more texts address similar themes or topics in order to build knowledge or to compare the approaches the authors take.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R10	Read and comprehend complex literary and informational texts independently and proficiently with scaffolding as needed.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W1	Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W2	Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W3	Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W4	Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W5	Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W6	Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and to interact and collaborate with others.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W7	Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects, utilizing an inquiry-based research process, based on focused questions, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W8	Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, assess the credibility and accuracy of each source, and integrate the information while avoiding plagiarism.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W9	Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W10	Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of tasks, purposes, and audiences.

Interdisciplinary Standards

LA.RH.9-10.1	Accurately cite strong and thorough textual evidence, to support analysis of primary and secondary sources, attending to such features as the date and origin of the information.
LA.RH.9-10.2	Determine the theme, central ideas, key information and/or perspective(s) presented in a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary that makes clear the relationships among the key details and ideas.
LA.RH.9-10.3	Analyze in detail a series of events described in a text; draw connections between the events, to determine whether earlier events caused later ones or simply preceded them.
LA.RH.9-10.4	Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including vocabulary describing political, social, or economic aspects of history and the social sciences; analyze the cumulative impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone.
LA.RH.9-10.5	Analyze how a text uses structure to emphasize key points or advance an explanation or analysis.
LA.RH.9-10.6	Compare the point of view of two or more authors in regards to how they treat the same or similar topics, including which details they include and emphasize in their respective accounts.
LA.RH.9-10.7	Integrate quantitative or technical analysis (e.g., charts, research data) with qualitative

	analysis in print or digital text, to analyze information presented via different mediums.
LA.RH.9-10.8	Assess the extent to which the reasoning and evidence in a text support the author's claims.
LA.RH.9-10.9	Compare and contrast treatments of the same topic, or of various perspectives, in several primary and secondary sources; analyze how they relate in terms of themes and significant historical concepts.
LA.WHST.9-10.10	Write routinely over extended time frames (time for reflection and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

Holocaust & Amistad Connections

SOC.6.1.12.A.3.h	Examine multiple perspectives on slavery and evaluate the claims used to justify the arguments.
SOC.6.1.12.A.3.i	Examine the origins of the antislavery movement and the impact of particular events, such as the Amistad decision, on the movement.
SOC.6.1.12.A.5.b	Analyze the effectiveness of governmental policies and of actions by groups and individuals to address discrimination against new immigrants, Native Americans, and African Americans.
SOC.6.1.12.A.11.e	Assess the responses of the United States and other nations to the violation of human rights that occurred during the Holocaust and other genocides.
SOC.6.1.12.D.5.d	Relate varying immigrants' experiences to gender, race, ethnicity, or occupation.
SOC.6.3.12.D.1	Analyze the impact of current governmental practices and laws affecting national security and/or individual civil rights/privacy.

Career Readiness, Life Literacies, & Key Skills (CLKS):

9.4.12.CI.1: Demonstrate the ability to reflect, analyze, and use creative skills and ideas

9.4.12.CT.2: Explain the potential benefits of collaborating to enhance critical thinking and problem solving

9.4.12.CT.4: Participate in online strategy and planning sessions for course-based, school-based, or other projects and determine the strategies that contribute to effective outcomes.

9.4.12.IML.2: Evaluate digital sources for timeliness, accuracy, perspective, credibility of the source, and relevance of information, in media, data, or other resources.

Computer Science & Design Thinking (CS & DT):

8.1.8.E.1 - Effectively use a variety of search tools and filters in professional public databases to find information to solve a real world problem.

8.1.8.D.4 - Assess the credibility and accuracy of digital content

LGBTQ & Persons With Disabilities

LGBTQ & Persons with Disabilities Works of Study:

V for Vendetta by Alan Moore features characters that identity as LGBTQ and persons with disabilities.
Ready Player One by Ernest cline features characters that identity as LGBTQ and persons with disabilities.
Red Queen by Victoria Aveyard that identity as LGBTQ.
On the Edge of Gone by Corinne Duyvis features a main character that struggles with autism in a dystopian society.

Other LGBTQ & Persons with Disabilities Resources:

V for Vendetta, film
"V FOR VENDETTA Gave Us A Transgender Anarchist Hero" by Mya Nunnally (https://comicsverse.com/v-for-vendetta-transgender-hero/)

"Red Queen: A Series of Inclusivity" by Sammy Bredar (http://bsuenglish.com/dlr/2019/04/04/red-queen-a-series-of-inclusivity/)

Teacher Resource: *Uncanny: Disabled People Destroy Science Fiction* Journal