

Course Overview

Content Area: **English**
Course(s): **AP Literature & Composition**
Time Period:
Length:
Status: **Published**

Course Overview

Aligned to Standards: College Board

Revision Date: 2024

In compliance with the NJ Student Learning Standards, climate change, career readiness, DEI (Diversity, Equity, & Inclusivity), as well as other standards have been integrated within the NBCRSD curricula (NJ Administrative Code Title 6A: chapter 8; Title 18A: chapter 35).

Course Overview

Sequence- Unit Titles, Summaries, and Number of weeks per unit (total = 18 semester/36 year)

Unit 1: The Past and the Individual's Fulfillment (10 weeks): This unit explores the legacy of slavery and the metaphorical and literal implications of freedom through the lens of Colson Whitehead's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, *The Underground Railroad*. Students analyze setting, symbolism, character development, and narrative structure as they trace Cora's harrowing journey. They will engage in close reading, evaluate the interplay between structure and meaning, and write literary arguments using textual evidence. Paired supplemental texts reinforce thematic connections and strengthen literary analysis.

Unit 2: The Search for Self (10 weeks): This unit focuses on the internal and external journey of spiritual awakening in *Siddhartha*. Through Hesse's episodic structure and symbolic language, students explore how character, setting, and narration shape meaning. Students will engage in frequent writing focused on crafting defensible claims and interpreting figurative language. Supplemental short fiction and parable-style texts and related poetry will ensure genre balance and enhance interpretive depth.

Unit 3: Relationships and Their Effect on the Individual (10 weeks): Students will study Shakespeare's *Othello* to analyze character psychology, figurative language, dramatic structure, and irony. Emphasis is placed on how stagecraft, soliloquies, and symbolism reveal character motives and societal norms. Students practice prose analysis and argumentative writing, drawing thematic comparisons to paired poetry. This unit strengthens close reading and essay development skills needed for the literary argument question (FRQ 3).

Unit 4: Change and Its Effect on the Individual (10 weeks): This final unit revisits longer fiction, challenging students to analyze character transformation, retrospective narration, setting, and motif (e.g., guilt, redemption, loyalty) in Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Runner*. Students examine Amir's moral journey through narrative voice, structure, and symbolism. They synthesize all previously practiced skills in preparation for the AP exam. Poetic pairings broaden thematic inquiry and enhance interpretive sophistication.

[Reporting Student Progress](#) (link to NB's Assessment System)

All courses follow a balanced assessment system with Practice and Assessments. Each category includes formative, summative and alternative assessments.

[Accommodations and Modifications](#) (link to menu)

Integrated accommodations and modifications for special education students, English language learners,

students at risk of school failure, gifted and talented students, and students with 504 plans.