

Week 9 Curriculum Mapping Project

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English 11: Unit 2 Building a Democracy

Essential Question:

What does oppression look like?

How do we gain our freedom?

How can we share power and build alliances?

How do we reach our goals?

Timeline: 9.5 Weeks

Unit things to cover – talk through with department:

1. Spark your learning (really good things to start the unit)
2. Essential Question (required)
3. Academic Vocabulary (required to cover but how is optional)
4. Assessment Practice (required) - what assessment is online for the dashboard?
5. Analyze (many options and way to do this but some part of the analyze section needs to be covered)
6. Differentiated Instruction (lots of resources) make sure we can find and use
7. Honors - “To Challenge Students” - ideas to add to honors classes – could also use the Reading’s Choice section of each unit
8. Reflect and Extend – optional?
9. Reader’s Choice – long reads, do we have the novels or do we need to order books?
10. Professional Development – suggested that the First two topics on the Teacher Success Pathway within first 30 days of instruction (Christine will look at this over the summer to determine if this is helpful)

<u>Fiction Texts Used</u>	<u>Non-Fiction Texts Used</u>	<u>Vocabulary and Grammar</u>	<u>Additional Resources</u>	<u>Assessment</u>	<u>Collaborate and Compare</u>	<u>Writing Requirement</u>
2. “One Today” (Poem) -Richard Blanco (1 Week) 5. A Soldier for the Crown” (Short Story) -Charles Johnson (1 Week)	1. “Declaration of Independence” (Public Document)- Thomas Jefferson (1 Week) 3. “American Experience: Alexander Hamilton” (Video) - PBS (1 Block) 4. “Thomas Jefferson: The Best of Enemies” (History Writing)	Cover all Vocabulary and Grammar noted in your selected texts	*Reteaching and Enrichment Note what is used from the many options - use as a place to record what was successful for differentiation and what wasn’t (this doesn’t have to be pre-planned but noted as you teach)	Quick checks (required) in teacher’s guide Formative Assessment Practice Formative Analyze... Complete this section for each text covered Expand your Vocabulary (test) online? Selection Test (required) Summative	Pick one activity from this section to complete “Lean In” vs “Letters to Abigail Adams” *Analyze Tone *Analyze Author’s Purpose *Annotating in Action	Writable Connection Write a Research Report Present a Research Report (3 Weeks) Note what the Writable assignment is for each Unit

	-Ron Chernow MT (1 Week) 6. “Lean In” (Essay) -Sheryl Sandberg /Letter to John Adams” (Letter) -Abigail Adams (1 Week)			Online Unit Test (required) Summative		
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Nebraska State Standards	National Library Standards
NE.LA.12.V.1: Integrate grade-level academic vocabulary appropriately for a variety of tasks and purposes. NE.LA.12.RI.5: Analyze seventeenth-, eighteenth-, and nineteenth-century works of historical and literary significance for their central ideas, purposes, and rhetorical style. NE.LA.12.RI.1: Evaluate the development of central ideas over the course of an informational text or texts. NE.LA.12.RI.3: Evaluate an author’s perspective or purpose and how it contributes to the meaning, significance, or aesthetic of an informational text. NE.LA.12.RI.8: Read and comprehend a wide range of literary texts in the 12-CCR grade band independently and proficiently. NE.LA.12.W.4: Write arguments that develop a perspective with supporting reasons and evidence, organized as appropriate to the task, purpose, and audience.	A 5.1: Reading widely and deeply in multiple formats and write and create for a variety of purposes B 1.3: Generating products that illustrate learning B 4.2: Collecting information representing diverse perspectives C 1.3: Acting on feedback to improve C 1.4: Sharing products with an authentic audience C 3.2: Involving diverse perspectives in their own inquiry processes

NE.LA.12.SL.1: Communicate effectively and appropriately in collaborative activities for a variety of tasks, purposes, and audiences to express ideas, share knowledge, and generate new understandings.

NE.LA.12.RI.4: Evaluate the effectiveness of the structure an author uses in an exposition or argument, including whether the structure makes the points clear, convincing, and engaging.

NE.LA.12.RP.6: Evaluate themes within and across literary texts to draw conclusions, deepen understanding of self and others, and generate questions for further inquiry.

NE.LA.12.SL.2c: Evaluate the purpose of information being presented, its motives (e.g., social, commercial, political), and determine its credibility.

Teaching Strategies

Close Reading & Annotation – Guide students in analyzing texts for literary devices, themes, and deeper meaning by marking important passages.

Think-Pair-Share – Students reflect on a question, discuss with a partner, and then share insights with the class to promote engagement.

Flipped Classroom – Have students review materials (videos, readings) at home and use class time for discussions and activities. (Retrieved from: <https://ctl.utexas.edu/instructional-strategies/flipped-classroom>)

Project-Based Learning (PBL) – Assign real-world tasks like creating a podcast, short film, or magazine article related to class themes. (Retrieved from: <https://www.prodigygame.com/main-en/blog/teaching-strategies/>)

Gamification – Use literary trivia, escape rooms, or interactive quizzes to reinforce key concepts. (Retrieved from: <https://www.prodigygame.com/main-en/blog/teaching-strategies/>)

Journaling – Assign reflective writing prompts to encourage personal connections to literature and self-expression.

Choice Reading & Independent Study – Allow students to choose books based on interest. Then follow with reflection projects or discussions.

One-Pager Assignments – Have students visually represent themes, symbols, and key ideas from a text on a single sheet of paper.

Speed Dating Discussions – Students rotate partners to discuss different questions or perspectives on a reading in short time intervals.

Special Needs Considerations

Frequent Check-Ins & Progress Monitoring – Regularly meeting with students to assess understanding, offer feedback, and adjust support as needed.

Sensory-Friendly Classroom Environment – Minimizing fluorescent lighting, loud noises, and strong scents to accommodate sensory-sensitive students.

Modified Assignments & Alternative Assessments – Adapting assignments (e.g., oral presentations instead of written essays) to meet individual needs.

Behavior & Emotional Support Plans – Implementing strategies like self-monitoring checklists, calm-down spaces, and structured routines for emotional regulation.

Frequent Breaks – Offering short breaks to help students with ADHD, anxiety, or sensory sensitivities regulate their focus and emotions.

Assistive Technology – Providing speech-to-text software, screen readers, or adaptive keyboards for students with disabilities.

Audio & Visual Supports – Using audiobooks, closed captions, graphic organizers, and visual schedules for students with reading difficulties.

Differentiated Instruction – Adjusting content, process, and product based on students' needs, strengths, and learning styles.

Current Materials Evaluation

Classroom:

The current classroom materials align very well and help support this unit of curriculum. The texts chosen are not only rich but offer a variety of different perspectives instead of relying solely on one author or perspective. Where the classroom materials really shine, however, is through the online text called HMH. HMH not only offers a variety of different texts to choose from but also allows teachers to change the lexile reading levels on a per student basis. The text also offers features such as interactive embedded questions in the text readings, videos, highlighted vocabulary words with definitions, and so much more. In conclusion, I think the classroom materials really benefit and shine this unit of curriculum in helping students answer essential questions and achieve the unit objectives while offering a diverse perspective of readings to help.

School Library:

Unfortunately, when it comes to materials from the school library, this is where we see a lot of roadblocks and challenges in supporting this curriculum. The Boys Town media center has a very small collection of materials and books when compared to other similar institutions or other public school libraries. The library currently does not hold any nonfiction titles to help support any subject curriculum. Since the library heavily relies on donations, when we do get a chance to buy books and materials they are chosen on fiction materials that will engage students in reading as we never have a budget to hold titles that are generally low interest titles, such as nonfiction titles. In conclusion, I hope over the years that our library will continue to grow so that one day we can hold nonfiction titles to be more involved in helping support a variety of subjects and their curriculum.

Material Areas That Need Improvement

The area that definitely needs the most improvement is the Boys Town Library. The library and the classroom currently operate as separate entities and really do not support or strengthen one another. The biggest challenge of this, as pointed earlier, is because the library currently does not hold materials to help support many subjects and their school curriculum. We hold plenty of books to read for fun and engage students with but not materials to help improve established curriculum. In the future I would really hope to see the library expand its collection to better be equipped in helping teachers and curriculum specialists in supporting our school curriculum with materials and other experiences. This will only benefit the students in the long run and create more unique and engaging lessons for our students.

Recommendation List

English 11

Title	Author	Publisher	Date	Price	Vendor	ISBN
Give me liberty! : the story of the Declaration of Independence	Russell, Freedman	Holiday House	March 1, 2002	\$14.16	Follett	978-0-8234-1753-7
The Declaration of Independence in translation: what it really means	Amie Jane Leavitt	Capstone Press	January 11, 2016	\$22.54	Follett	978-1-51576-250-8
20 things you didn't know about the Declaration of Independence	Doug Bradley	Powerkids Press	July 30, 2023	\$21.00	Follett	978-1-51606-551-6
Government & democracy (Our	Charlie Ogden	Crabtree Publishing	January 1st, 2017	\$17.49	Follett	978-1-53790-633-1

Values: Level 3)		Company				
Become America: civic sermons on love, responsibility, and democracy	Eric Liu	Sasquatch Books	May 14, 2019	\$24.21	Follett	978-1-63217-257-0
Liberty or death : the American Revolution, 1763-1783	Betsy Maestro	Harper Collins	September 6, 2005	\$15.19	Follett	978-0-688-08802-6
Esperanza Rising	Pam Muñoz Ryan	Scholastic	May 1, 2002	\$12.99	Amazon	978-0439120425
Refugee	Alan Gratz	Scholastic	July 25, 2017	\$10.49	Amazon	978-0545880831
Harbor Me	Jacqueline Woodson	Nancy Paulsen Books	April 21, 2020	\$9.63	Amazon	978-0525515142
Chains	Laurie Halse Anderson	Atheneum Books for Young Readers	October 21, 2008	\$19.99	Amazon	978-1416905851
Stella by Starlight	Sharon M. Draper	Atheneum Books for	January 6, 2015	\$17.02	Amazon	978-1442494978

		Young Readers				
Kindred	Octavia Butler	Beacon Press	January 1, 2003	\$11.41	Amazon	978-0807083697
Long Way Down	Jason Reynolds	Atheneum/Caitlyn Dlouhy Books	October 24, 2017	\$14.37	Amazon	978-1481438254
They Called Us Enemy	George Takei	Top Shelf Productions	July 16, 2019	\$11.74	Amazon	978-1603094504
Born a Crime	Trevor Noah	One World	November 15, 2017	\$12.01	Amazon	978-0399588174
We Are Not Free	by Traci Chee	Clarion Books	September 1, 2020	\$10.89	Amazon	978-0358131434
Internment	Samira Ahmed	Little, Brown Books for Young Readers	March 19, 2019	\$11.39	Amazon	978-0316522694
This Is My America	Kim Johnson	Random House Books for Young	July 28, 2020	\$9.68	Amazon	978-0593118764

		Readers				
The Book Thief	Markus Zusak	Prestwick House	January 1, 2012	\$14.99	Follett	978-1-62019-063-0
The War That Saved My Life	Kimberly Brubaker Bradley	Dial Books	January 8, 2015	\$11.31	Amazon	978-0803740815
Wolf Hollow	Lauren Wolk	Dutton Books for Young Readers	May 3, 2016	\$10.39	Amazon	978-1101994825
Firekeeper's Daughter	Angeline Boulley	Henry Holt and Co. (BYR)	March 16, 2021	\$11.00	Amazon	978-1250766564
On the Come Up	Angie Thomas	Clarion Books	February 5, 2019	\$8.98	Amazon	978-0062498564
This Light Between Us	Andrew Fukuda	Tor Teen	January 7, 2020	\$14.51	Amazon	978-1250192387
Revolution	Deborah Wiles	Scholastic Press	May 27, 2014	\$21.70	Amazon	978-0545106078

References

- Kampen, M. (2024, August 4). *37 powerful teaching strategies to level up learning in 2024*. Prodigy Education.
<https://www.prodigygame.com/main-en/blog/teaching-strategies/>
- The University of Texas at Austin Center for Teaching and Learning. (n.d.). *Flipped classroom*. UT Austin.
<https://ctl.utexas.edu/instructional-strategies/flipped-classroom>