

1. Dates of Course

This course is set to run: (TBD)

2. Course Description

In this fifteen hour course teachers will learn how to design a unit that will ultimately spark student interest in reading novels by a specific author and give students another avenue, familiarity with an author, for selecting novels for further independent reading. The unit involves students reading two novels written by their chosen author, identifying the elements of fiction, learning to locate and process information regarding their authors' lives through research, note-taking, creating a timeline of factual information about their authors' lives, and writing an extended research-based report about the author's life. The unit culminates with each student creating a T-shirt advertising his/her author presented at an Author Fan Club Convention including refreshments, decorations, etc. reflecting the themes of their authors.

3. Course Objectives

Collaborate with the library media specialist:

Meet with librarian to discuss nature of unit and necessity for his support.

Help librarian make a list of suitable authors and novels.

Help the librarian list reference materials pertaining to author biographical information

Investigate Internet sites safe for students to visit for information regarding their authors and books.

Create guidelines and rubrics for assignments and evaluations of those assignments within the unit

Create general information handout explaining nature of unit, specific assignments, and time parameters for different assignments.

Create a worksheet for students eliciting information on their books.

Create student worksheet with guidelines for biographical information.

Create rubric for correction of timeline

Create rubric for correction of extended research-based report about author's life.

Create a guideline for Author Fan Club Convention.

Create your own T-shirt based on one of your favorite authors.

Create evaluation form for students.

Fill out evaluation form as a course participant.

4. NYS Standards Addressed

NYS ELA Standards 1, 2, 3, &4

5. Contact Information

JoAnn Brown – Instructor

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6. Prerequisite Skills/Requirements

Participants should know Microsoft Windows (Mac or Windows) and be able to create, attach, and download documents. They also need to have Internet access and email capabilities.

7. Road Map

Posted as a separate document

8. How you will determine your recommendation for in-service credit

This is a 15 hour in-service course. Assignments have been created to accommodate that period of time. Therefore, completion of all assignments (this includes participation in class discussions and completion of required reading as well as posting assignments) to a minimum satisfactory level is required before credit can be given.

9. Policies

Posted as a separate document