

## Using Digital Resources to Enhance Reading Comprehension Course Syllabus

**Instructor:** Denise Lewis

**Contact Information:** DeeAnneLew@gmail.com

**Course Dates:** TBD

### **Course Description:**

Have you ever read a book... a short story... a poem and been able to see the characters, know the place, or empathize with the protagonist? Many students haven't had such a memorable reading moment. They'd much rather surf the web, text friends and search for themselves on youtube. To motivate students to read teachers can connect reading with the digital resources students use every day. There is a wealth of Web 2.0 resources to connect kids with books. *Using Digital Resources to Enhance Reading Comprehension* will provide teachers with the knowledge and skills to connect kids with reading through digital media and easy to use Web tools.

**Course Goal:** How are digital resources used as tools to enhance reading comprehension?

- **Outcome 1:** To gain confidence in navigating online course tools, and to understand course assignments and expectations.
  - **Learning Objective 1:** To identify your technology literacy and demonstrate how to use course platform by collaborating with classmates.
- **Outcome 2:** To illustrate that digital images can enhance reading comprehension and do influence reading selections.
  - **Learning Objective 2:** To identify the reading strategies used to visualize a story which can increase comprehension; and to gain awareness of current copyright policies.
- **Outcome 3:** To explore how students can use authoritative websites to build digital recreations of literature to enhance reading comprehension.
  - **Learning Objective 3:** Using visual recreation applications (timelines; comic strip animator) participants will illustrate literary plots; and link to websites with authoritative background information for the literature.
- **Outcome 4:** To evaluation websites and search engines for authority, accuracy and currency.
  - **Learning Objective 4:** To find, analyze and compare websites and search engines.
- **Outcome 5:** Participants will examine how digital resources, such as collaborative writing, audio, and digital images can increase reading comprehension.
  - **Learning Objective 5:** To use the internet as a space to publish writings, listen to literature; and to compare the traditional reading and writing skills to reading and writing on the internet.
- **Outcome 6:** Participants will examine the impact of student-created digital stories that personalize literature.

- **Learning Objective 6:** To examine the process of developing digital stories, and to integrate already created digital stories to enhance curriculum.
- **Outcome 7:** To identify how podcasts and audio files target auditory learners and increase reading comprehension.
  - **Learning Objective 7:** To examine iTunes U and podcast search engines as educational tools; and to reflect on participant's learning experience.

**About the Instructor:**

My name is Denise Lewis. I have been an educator for more than twenty years. I taught high school English in New York, and later worked as a media specialist. For the past six years I've worked for the NYC Department of Education as an Instructional Technology Specialist, designing and delivering professional development to educators throughout the city about the integration of instructional technology into all content areas. For more than ten years, I've taught freshman English at Kingsborough Community College in the evenings. This summer I will be teaching my first online course (Digital Storytelling) for NYC DOE teachers as part of the After School Professional Development Program. Teaching online affords me the opportunity to blend my passion for literature with all the newest Web 2.0 tools which invigorate teaching and learning in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

**New York State Learning Standards Addressed:**

- ELA Standard 1: Students will read, write, listen, and speak for information and understanding.
- ELA Standard 2: Students will read, write, listen, and speak for literary response and expression.
- ELA Standard 3: Students will read, write, listen, and speak for critical analysis and evaluation.
- ELA Standard 4: Students will read, write, listen, and speak for social interaction.
- Information Literacy Standard 1: Inquire, think critically, and gain knowledge.
- Information Literacy Standard 2: Draw conclusions, make informed decisions, apply knowledge to new situations, and create new knowledge.
- Information Literacy Standard 3: Share knowledge and participate ethically and productively as members of our democratic society.
- MST Standard 5: Students apply technological knowledge and skills to design, construct, use, and evaluate products and systems to satisfy human and environmental needs.

**Prerequisite Skills and Software Requirements:** Knowledge of Microsoft Word and basic internet search strategies are essential. All online applications will be available for free download.

**Recommendations for In-service credit will be determined:** Based upon successful completion of all assignments in this 15 hour course, participants will be recommended for one in-service credit.