Plotting Your Course for Student Success

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Review your 2016 CB Instructional Report

- Goes beyond student score breakdowns
- Shows number of Poetry and Prose Qs; what eras were emphasized.

Multiple Choice Test

- 24 Prose/20th and 21st Century
- 31 Poetry/Pre-20th Century
Review your 2016 CB Instructional Report

- Shows student strengths/needs

- Poetry scores are nearly always weaker

- Use your influence to encourage more poetry study in your department

*Scores were lower this year than the last 5 years--Damn that Juggler! (?)
Establish your class culture

- **Promote thoughtful discussion** of literature in the company of fellow students: Small group

- Use summer reading selections as **primary anchor texts** for the year - throughout the year, remind students of aspects of these works when inspiration strikes

- **Begin student writing practice** early, and without much interference at first. *There is no magic formula.*

- **Assess** their knowledge of the language of literature in several ways - formal and informal.
How much material should I cover?

- works from a range of genres and periods— from the 16th to the 21st centuries
- Complexity of meaning
- Novels (Prose), Poetry, and Drama
  - British and American
- Bust the canon!
How can I possibly do all of that?

- Create a year overview and choose most impactful texts.
- Respond to student needs and change course/drop anchor when indicated.
Planning

- Spiral in 3 major genres with lessons throughout the year to activate their prior knowledge, especially, with poetry.

- Teach what you are most passionate about, whenever possible.
Planning

Fall Semester:

*Invisible Man*
*Native Guard* (poetry collection)
*Death of A Salesman (incl. Research)*
*Ethan Frome*
*Hamlet*

Spring Semester:

*1984 (with Poetry Research)*
*Frankenstein*

-- “Allegory of the Cave”, Timed Writings Multiple Choice Practice, Romantic Poetry unit, Sonnets and fixed forms unit, Research Process and Product, and more...
Timing
50 minute class

Fall Semester:

*Invisible Man* unit
4 weeks

*Native Guard* unit
2 weeks

*Death of A Salesman* unit (*incl. Research*)
3 weeks

“Allegory of the Cave”
1 week (spiral to IM)

*Ethan Frome* (novella)
2-3 weeks

*Hamlet*
3-4 weeks
Timing

50 minute class

Spring Semester

*Frankenstein* unit (incl. Romanticism)
4 weeks

1984 unit (with Poetry Research)
6-7 weeks

*Targeted practice for MC and essays*

*Senioritis!! It’s real!*
Incorporating Multiple Choice Practice

Divide old tests into passages and use as warm-ups
Tips for Poetry Study

Begin with more accessible poems--
- “Aunt Jennifer’s Tigers”
- “Fire and Ice”
- “We Real Cool”

- Build confidence and work toward complexity

Create mini-lessons on a poet’s work with a balance between canonical and lesser known works by that poet.
Tips for Writing Practice

Select a bank of AP writing prompts. (2 poetry/2 prose.)

While you are studying a novel or another major work, schedule 1 timed write per week.

After students complete 4 essays, have them choose 1 poetry and 1 prose for you to assess/grade.
Terms to emphasize:

- Repetition
- Juxtaposition
- Figurative Language devices
- Point of View
- Characterization
- Irony
- Tone
- Diction
- Satire
- Theme