

Time Frame	Unit/Concepts
September	<p>Unit 1: Scholarly Investigation – The Michael Brown shooting and subsequent unrest in Ferguson, Mo.</p> <p>Unit Theme: Introduction to College Research and Writing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct a research investigation to identify the causes and effects (both local and nation-wide) of the Michael Brown shooting in Ferguson, Mo. • Theorize what the event means in regards to race relations as a whole in the United States • Practice active reading strategies and annotating texts (interacting with a text) • Construct bibliography and source note cards • Plan, draft, revise, edit and publish a correctly-formatted APA research paper, complete with works cited page • Use reliable internet sites and scholarly databases to locate relevant expository articles/essays
Mid-September- Early November	<p>Unit 2: Political Ideology as a Weapon: George Orwell’s 1984</p> <p>Unit Theme: Students will compare and contrast the political and social elements of George Orwell’s 1984 with the political and social elements of his time, and with modern times.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe the historical context of 1984 • Define the term “dystopia” and describe elements of 1984 that make the setting a dystopia • Analyze the literary elements employed by Orwell (imagery, symbolism, allusions, foreshadowing) • Identify and interpret figurative language used by Orwell (similes, metaphors, etc.) • Explore issues of privacy and government surveillance as they apply to 1984 and our world • Compare and contrast political theories in 1984 with Marxist and Communist political theories • Compare and contrast our society with that of Orwell’s in 1984 • Connect totalitarianism in 1984 with past totalitarian regimes • Analyze the plot structure of the novel
November-December	<p>Unit 3: College Research – Formulating a Review of Literature</p> <p>Unit Theme: Students will use scholarly databases to research articles on censorship, and will formulate a review of literature on the topic of censorship.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan, draft, revise, edit, and publish a research-based review of literature (using appropriate APA format) • Construct bibliography and note cards with compiled research information • Construct a properly-formatted APA bibliography • Locate appropriate source materials using scholarly data-bases • Construct a working thesis statement • Construct an outline of and APA review of literature
January- March	Unit 4: The Power of Language

	<p>Unit Theme: Utilize the memoir <i>Night</i> by Elie Wiesel to explore and examine how leaders use powerful language to change their lives, the lives of others, and the world</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Construct a personal memoir• Analyze the use of powerful language in historical speeches and writings (Martin Luther King Jr., Franklin Roosevelt, Adolph Hitler)• Identify and utilize different forms of propaganda, with a focus on World War II• Explain the purpose and format of the memoir genre• Examine Elie Wiesel’s spiritual learnings through the experience of the Holocaust• Explore the role of spirituality and philosophical treatment of a higher power through the use of philosophical writing (Nietzsche) and Wiesel’s memoir <i>Night</i>• Use context clues to construct meaning from unfamiliar vocabulary terms and concepts• Identify major themes evident in the memoir <i>Night</i>; apply themes and ideas to pop culture and the lives of students
Late March-May	<p>Unit 5: Morals, Values, and Ethics</p> <p>Unit Theme: Utilize the memoir <i>Tuesday’s With Morrie</i>, by Mitch Albom, to analyze and evaluate the roles of morals and values in society.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Differentiate between morals, values and ethics• Clearly define personal morals and values, and fit those morals and values into ethical contexts• Analyze and apply numerous lessons from <i>Tuesday’s With Morrie</i> to the lives of students, the high school culture, and the world beyond• Compare and contrast personal morals, values, and ethics in light of Morrie’s insights on similar topics• Evaluate society and cultural norms; examine societal and cultural norms in light of previously identified morals and values• Challenge current societal and cultural norms and values