

Units of Study and Collaboration

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MHHS English Department Perspective

RCD Unit Creation--Essential Elements

- CCSS Standards--Identify Priority Standards
 - Essential Questions and Enduring Understandings
 - Daily Objectives
 - Discreet skills teaching and practice
- Engaging Learning Activities
 - Each learning activity prepares students for Proficiency on Mastery Assessments
 - Active Learning Strategies
 - Cooperative Learning
 - Technology integration
 - Station Based Learning
- Formative Assessment
 - Frequent Checks for Understanding embedded in the curriculum
- Mastery Assessments (Summative Assessment):
 - Authentic Performance Tasks
 - Unit projects
- Importance of Master Copy of classes in Canvas LMS

Mastery Based Learning and Grading

What the research states: “In traditional grading, grades are recorded by the task--a grade for a particular assignment, quiz, or test. In standards- based grading, those learning tasks are organized by learning targets and grades are reported by learning target.”

Vatterott, C. (2015). *Rethinking Grading: Meaningful Assessment for Standards-Based Learning*. Alexandria, VA: ASCD.

- Rubric Scoring--clearly defined levels of mastery
- Re-do/Re-Take and Error Analysis celebrates mistakes as learning opportunities.
- Students are becoming more self-directed
- Common Rubrics and Common Mastery Assessments lead to a coordinated, easy to communicate expectation across the board
- Level of rigor increases

Role of Collaboration

- English Department Daily Collaboration Cycle
 - **Monday:** Curriculum and Instruction
 - Preview and plan the week ahead and/or preview and plan the next Unit of Study.
 - **Tuesday:** Blended Learning and Student Engagement Strategies
 - **Wednesday:** Instructional Technology
 - Canvas/BSN, Instructional Applications, Google, etc.
 - **Thursday:** Mastery Learning and Mastery Assessments
 - Align assessments to priority standards; Data analysis; Student support and intervention strategies; Rubric creation and alignment; Error Analysis/Reflection
 - **Friday:** Curriculum and Instruction
 - Review the week and/or review next Unit of Study; Make adjustments/revisions as necessary. As needed, review news/issues from Leadership Team.

Cycle of Continuous Improvement

- Units of Study and Collaboration are essential components of our cycle of continuous improvement.
- Fosters a culture of Action Research and Collaborative Inquiry.

