

NORTHERN BURLINGTON COUNTY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
2021 Course Map/Pacing Guide

Department	English	Course	English IV [Grade 12]
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Source of Standards

- New Jersey Student Learning [Standards 2020](#)
 - [NJSLS for English Language Arts Grades 11-12](#)
 - [English Language Arts](#) (Companion Standards for History, Social Studies, Science and Technical Subjects)
 - College Board
- [Career Readiness, Life Literacies, and Key Skills](#);
 - All courses Focus on - 9.4 Life Literacies and Key Skills (p. 49)

Sequence- Unit Titles and Number of weeks per unit (total = 18 semester/ 36 year)

Unit 1: PHILOSOPHY AND PERSONAL VALUES (6 Weeks) - Students closely examine the universality of happiness and finding purpose in one's life. From a philosophical to a practical journey, students identify what factors influence their own happiness and explore practical ways in achieving happiness in both education and in a career.

Unit 2: MAINTAINING NORMALCY IN TIMES OF CHAOS (8 Weeks) - In this unit, students are asked to employ empathy as they are exposed to two different journeys from a similar demographic. Students are asked to critically look at the systemic structures in both *A Long Way Gone* and *Born a Crime*.

Unit 3: COMING OF AGE IN CONFLICT (8 Weeks) - Students study multiple perspectives in the non-fiction *Half the Sky*, a collection of essays that explore what it means to be a woman in more oppressive areas of the world. Again, students are asked to critically look at systems that keep people, particularly women, oppressed.

Unit 4: READING SHAKESPEARE IN MODERN TIMES (6-8 Weeks) - Students will read *Othello* by William Shakespeare and study prominent themes such as jealousy and deception. Issues of race, gender, and class are also recurring themes that are closely analyzed in this timeless Classic.

Unit 5: NAVIGATING RELATIONSHIPS, SOCIAL NORMS, & LEARNING FROM MISTAKES (8 Weeks) - *The Kite Runner* tells a multi-generational story of what it means to make amends with those who we have wronged. Students get to learn about Afghani culture through a story of love and brotherhood.

Big Ideas/[Enduring Understanding](#) (link to guide)

- Ideological and philosophical ideas vary across cultures, subcultures, and time periods.
- These ideological and philosophical ideas often persist and maintain relevance today.

- These ideological and philosophical ideas can help shape the way in which we view our world.
- Reading memoirs help us strengthen our empathy as readers.
- Despite geographic differences, the similarities between teenagers still exist.
- Exploitation can take on many forms.
- War has long-lasting effects on individuals, particularly children.
- There are life-altering consequences when children assume the role and responsibility of adults.
- Society plays a vital role in protecting children.
- Shakespeare's work is timeless and still relevant to the modern reader.
- The setting of Shakespearean tragedies have an impact on the psychological nature of the characters.
- The nature of human beings influences the choices they make.
- The experiences of children are not always universal.
- Conflicts and themes in a work are often influenced by cultural norms.
- Justice can be subjective and sometimes misguided.
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[Essential Questions \(link to guide\)](#)

- How do philosophical ideas of the past translate to today's world?
- How can I use philosophical ideas of the past to help develop my own philosophies?
- How do having defined philosophies on life help drive the choices you make?
- What are the factors that create child soldiers?
- How do you get back to normal life after trauma?
- What does war do to a culture?
- How does war affect children and what obstacles might they face when trying to return to a normal life?
- What are the possible consequences when circumstances dictate that children are asked to do the job of adults?
- Why should society protect children from the dangers of reality?
- Why read Shakespeare and how is it relevant to modern life?
- How does jealousy affect behavior?
- What can Shakespeare teach us about human nature?
- Why do we allow our actions and/or accomplishments to define who we are?
- How does our society impact the choices we make?
- What is required of us to break through those social norms to achieve justice?
- In what ways are we shaped by our experiences, emotions, and relationships?

[Reporting Student Progress \(link to pyramid\)](#)

All courses follow a balanced assessment system with Practice and Assessments. Each category includes formative, summative and alternative assessments.

[Accommodations and Modifications \(link to menu\)](#)

Integrated accommodations and modifications for special education students, English language learners, students at risk of school failure, gifted and talented students, and students with 504 plans

Resources (Text and Technology)

Unit 1

- “Creative Happiness” by J Krishnamurthi
- “The Bet” by Anton Chekhov
- *Prison Break* Episode 1 (2005)
- *Long Way Down* by Jason Reynolds
- Honors: *Siddhartha* by Hermann Hesse
- *The Dhammapada*
- [“Does Reading Fiction Make you a Better Person?”](#) Sarah Kaplan. The Washington Post.

Unit 2

- *A Long Way Gone* by Ishmael Beah
- “The Lord is my Shepherd” by Ishmael Beah
- “When Good Comes from Bad” by Ishmael Beah
- *Born a Crime* by Trevor Noah
- [Dangers of a Single Story](#) [Ted Talk] by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

Unit 3

- Excerpts from *Half the Sky* by Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn
- *Half the Sky* Film 2012

Unit 4

- *Othello* by William Shakespeare
- *Othello* (1995 Film)
- *O* (2001 Film)
- *The Life and Times of William Shakespeare* (Documentary)
- *Shakespeare Uncovered* (NPR series - Othello episode)

Unit 5

- *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini
- “A Secret Kite” by Deborah Ellis
- *The Kite Runner* film 2007
- Documentary *Afghanistan The Unknown Country*
- Anthony Bourdain *Parts Unknown* episode
- Various religious accounts and translations of story of two brothers (Cain & Abel)