

How do you plan a yearlong curriculum?

*Advice and Resources
from Wessling and Smagorinsky*

Common Language and Advice	Wessling	Smagorinsky
planning w/the end in mind		
keeping students & context at the center		
spiraling of texts/units/tasks		
overarching concepts for course & units		
how to choose texts/ (how to use your anthology / textbook)		
<i>what else?</i>		

not a recipe, but a place to start

- Keep **students** at the center. Consider **cultural positional**ity: What are students' **assets**? What are their **interests**? What are their **learning needs**? What is the community **context**? (SEE WESSLING HEURISTICS, pp. 93-95)
- To ensure continuity across units, think about an **overarching concept** for the course around a **shared purpose**. Determine a **culminating task** (summative assessment) for the course.
- Identify a **focus** for each unit (e.g., an essential question, theme, stance, genre, etc.). **Spiral** the units: *How does one unit prepare students to be successful for the next?*
- Choose the **texts students will produce**. Identify the **objectives/goals/standards** that will guide your unit.
- Choose the **texts students will read** (context + fulcrum + texture): *How does each text within the unit prepare students for the next? What's the "reading Velcro," as Wessling calls it?*
- Determine the **formative assessments** that will lead up to it to the texts (i.e., the projects or summative assessments) that students will *produce* for each unit.

FOCUS for 3/3

- Keep **students** at the center. Consider **cultural positional****ity**: What are students' assets? What are their interests? What are their learning needs? What is the community context? (*SEE WESSLING HEURISTICS, pp. 93-95*)
- To ensure continuity across units, think about an **overarching concept** for the course. What is your shared purpose?
- Determine a **culminating task** (summative assessment) for the course that will help you meet your shared purpose. Will it be conventional or unconventional or some combination of the 2?

some useful resources on weebly

- Wessling's yearlong planning template
- Wessling's unit planning template
- Wessling's planning heuristic for keeping students at the center
- Resources for choosing texts:
 - reading list resources handout (you got this last Wed.)
 - text complexity circles (original + blank)
 - Appendix B of CCSS: *Text Exemplars for grade levels*
 - various links to lists of texts