

# SREB Ready

Many schools need to use the senior year to close the readiness gap and prepare students who aren't literacy-ready for college. SREB's Literacy Ready course is designed to address this specific need.

## Ready for College: *Literacy Ready*

This course utilizes a disciplinary literacy approach that teaches students strategies for reading and understanding complex texts in various subject areas. Students learn to develop and defend ideas from textbooks and write about them in several disciplines such as English, history and biology on a college level. The unit structure conforms to the Literacy Design Collaborative (LDC) framework while addressing college- and career-readiness standards in a challenging curriculum.

### English Unit 1:

#### *The Shallows* by Nicholas Carr

The first English unit has students read informational text from Nicholas Carr's *The Shallows: What the Internet is Doing to Our Brains*, as well as related supplemental texts. For the unit conclusion, students collect evidence for a stance-based synthesis presentation.

### History Unit 1:

#### The Civil Rights Movement

This unit focuses on the Civil Rights Movement and changes in the 1960s. Students draw information from a textbook chapter, a film, a lecture and a number of primary source documents as they learn to read history, recognize implicit and explicit claims and evidence, write a historical account and form related arguments.

### Science Unit 1:

#### Nutrition

Students are introduced to disciplinary literacy in the sciences — learning strategies for reading multiple types of text, including science textbooks, research articles and news articles. They discover a variety of ways to write about science — from personal reflection to public consumption — and to comprehend science information in multiple representations.

### English Unit 2:

#### *Ubik* by Philip K. Dick

The second English unit moves into literary study, using *Ubik* by Philip K. Dick, as the central text. For the unit conclusion, students collect and present evidence for a literary argumentative essay. With a literary argument in hand, students debate a question drawn from the theme of the novel.

### History Unit 2:

#### U.S. Foreign Affairs

This unit focuses on U.S. involvement in foreign affairs: the Cuban Missile Crisis and the Vietnam War. Students read multiple texts and place a strong emphasis on writing historical arguments.

### Science Unit 2:

#### DNA and Biotechnology

Students extend their understanding of reading and writing in science by reading research articles and textbook materials, taking notes from lecture videos and making predictions using scientific models. Students face increasingly greater depth in writing as they prepare and present an evidence-based scientific poster in a research symposium.

