

# 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* and related supplemental texts. Students collect evidence for a stance-based synthesis presentation.

### 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. Students collect and present evidence for a literary argumentative essay and debate a question drawn from the theme of the novel.

### English Unit 3: *A Midsummer Night's Dream* by William Shakespeare

The third English unit focuses on literary analysis and the reading of assorted texts from William Shakespeare's, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Students use close reading strategies to comprehend complex text and annotate complex informational text. Students write an essay analyzing the "dreams" that occur in the play.

### 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 multiple sources as they learn to recognize implicit and explicit textual evidence and form written arguments based on historical accounts.

### History Unit 2: The Cuban Missile Crisis

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

### History Unit 3: The Vietnam War

This unit focuses on the United States and foreign affairs during the 1960s and specifically, the Vietnam War. Students use disciplinary reading strategies in history sourcing, contextualization and corroboration to make meaning from multiple perspectives on history. Students read longer, difficult texts to increase their ability to read complex historical texts independently.

### Science Unit 1: Nutrition

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

### Science Unit 2: DNA and Biotechnology

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

**Note to teachers:** The recommended sequence of units for a full-year course or a semester-based course in a block schedule: **English Unit 1, History Unit 1, Science Unit 1, English Unit 2 or 3, History Unit 2 or 3, Science Unit 2**

