Overview

Secondary Disciplinary Literacy examines teaching strategies designed to help learners in middle and high school improve upon the literacy skills required to read, write, and think critically while engaging content in different academic disciplines. Themes include exploring how language structures, text features, vocabulary, and context influence reading comprehension across the curriculum. The course highlights strategies and tools designed to help teachers assess the reading comprehension and writing proficiency of learners and provides strategies to support students' reading and writing success in all curriculum areas. This course has no prerequisites.

Competencies

- **Understanding Disciplinary Literacy**
  The graduate distinguishes between the basic strategies used to facilitate comprehension in the content areas and the specialized reading practices needed to comprehend text in a specific discipline.

- **Teaching Reading Comprehension Within the Disciplines**
  The graduate integrates discipline-specific literacy instruction to help students understand the text structures, vocabulary, and language knowledge required for specific disciplines.

- **Writing Within the Disciplines**
  The graduate plans writing activities that promote understanding of discipline-specific content through the organization, analysis, and synthesis of ideas.

- **Inquiry and Disciplinary Literacy**
  The graduate creates authentic learning tasks and activities that provide students with opportunities to demonstrate discipline specific understandings.

- **Literacy Within Specific Disciplines**
  The graduate integrates instructional strategies and materials in disciplinary literacy practices to enhance student understanding within the disciplines.
Welcome to Secondary Disciplinary Literacy! This course examines how to help your students develop strategies and habits of mind that will help them to effectively read and write in the context of each academic discipline. The interactive Annenberg Module will provide you with key information regarding the ways that scientists, historians, and mathematicians read and write that are specific to their disciplines. Additional readings and videos will provide you with detailed information about the unique skills and strategies for reading disciplinary texts, while interactive activities will allow you to apply what you have learned. Course content is delivered in a module-based learning platform that integrates frequent knowledge checks to assess your understanding of key concepts. Your competency will be demonstrated by completing a performance assessment with authentic learning tasks that will help you apply what you learn in the classroom.