# Differentiated Instruction Professional Development developed by staff in Advanced Academics

# **Gifted Curriculum Differentiation Workshops**

These workshops provide teachers with strategies to develop a greater range of ability to differentiate the curriculum to accommodate the varying abilities of their gifted students. Session activities focus on units of study which utilize the gifted differentiation strategies of acceleration, enrichment, compacting, and project-based learning. These workshops also provide strategies for increasing participation in higher level concepts and skills in all content areas.

#### **Teaching Enrichment Activities to Minorities (TEAM)**

TEAM is a District Priority Program (DPP) designed to provide for the instruction of higher order thinking skills to elementary students within predominantly minority-populated schools in a full-time classroom setting. TEAM integrates thinking skills instruction within all subject areas to strengthen the thinking processes of students. The TEAM Workshop provides teachers with information on how to implement a classroom environment focused on thinking skills and how to integrate the Building Thinking Skills (BTS) books within their daily instruction. Teachers learn how to create learning centers, differentiate curriculum, and incorporate critical thinking and creative thinking in their teaching.

### **Pre-AP Workshops Across the Curriculum**

A variety of Pre-AP Workshops across the curriculum offer teachers in all disciplines the opportunity to engage in research-based instructional practices to strengthen teaching and learning. Teachers experience a guided-exploration approach that they can use in their classroom to build knowledge and further understanding for each student. Teachers are exposed to instructional activities, assessment items and cross-grade lessons for classroom use. They learn embedded diagnostic and formative assessment strategies that can be used to develop students' communication skills and that allow teachers to monitor and foster thinking across the curriculum.

#### **Pre-AP Vertical Teams Workshops**

This two and three-day workshop offer a step-by-step action plan for teachers who are planning to build an AP Vertical Team in their schools. Participants receive a tool-kit of concrete applications, including strategies and hands-on activities that can be used to build Vertical Teams and to begin developing their school's action plan. Guided discussions will facilitate identifying and solving potential roadblocks. Participants develop research-based strategies for engaging students, aligning curriculum and creating an action plan for their AP Vertical Team.

### **SpringBoard Initial Institute Workshops**

The SpringBoard Initial Institute is an introduction to the SpringBoard Program. Areas of focus include: SpringBoard content, activities and instructional tools, alignment to the College Board Standards for College Success™ as well as to Common Core State Standards, and assessments of student progress. This workshop consists of three (3) consecutive six-hour days of training for Mathematics and English Language Arts teachers.

### **SpringBoard Curriculum Mapping Workshops**

The SpringBoard Curriculum Mapping Workshops are held over a 5-day period and provide teachers with the opportunity to create a Curriculum Map that demonstrates the alignment of instruction between District curricular requirements, Common Core State Standards, and the SpringBoard Program. These workshops focus on long-range planning, the need for embedded assessments, and the differentiation of instruction in Mathematics and English Language Arts.

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# Advanced Placement Mentor/Mentee Program

The AP Mentor/Mentee Program is a full-year program to provide support and mentoring to teachers with less than two (2) years teaching experience in Advanced Placement courses (Mentee). AP mentor teachers provide 40 hours of consistent guidance, support and feedback in the areas of lesson planning, AP content scope/sequence and pacing, classroom management, curriculum development, assessment techniques, AP data analysis, and College Board Curricular requirements to the new AP instructors. Mentoring takes place over a full academic school year.

### Advanced Placement Teacher Curriculum Review (APTCR)

This workshop provides AP teachers with instruction in the areas of AP content scope/sequence and pacing, AP curriculum development, assessment techniques, AP data analysis, and College Board Curricular requirements. The workshop is intended to prepare AP teachers to be successful in the delivery of the curriculum in the following AP subjects: Biology, Calculus AB, Chemistry, English Language & Composition, English Literature & Composition, Environmental Science, European History, French Language, Government & Politics: US, Human Geography, Macroeconomics, Psychology, Spanish Language, Spanish Literature, US History, World History.

# Advanced Placement Student Curriculum Review (APSCR)

The Advanced Placement Student Curriculum Review (APSCR) provides AP students and their teachers with an end-of-year review and test taking strategies from veteran Miami-Dade County Public Schools' Advanced Placement teachers in preparation for the May AP examinations. Students in attendance return to their schools and are given the opportunity to share their learning with peers and continue the preparation for a successful AP exam administration.

### **Advanced Placement Florida Summer Institutes**

The Advanced Placement (AP) Program Florida Summer Institute courses provide teachers with an overview of curriculum frameworks, structures, and content of specific AP courses. Attention is devoted not only to the development of curriculum but also to the teaching strategies and the relationship of the course to the AP Examination. The AP Summer Institutes provide new and experienced teachers with a rich staff development opportunity.

### **Dual Enrollment Curriculum Workshops**

The Dual Enrollment Curriculum Workshops are held in cooperation with the District's partner higher education institutions, Miami Dade College and Florida International University. These workshops assist all high school teachers currently teaching a Dual Enrollment course or preparing to teach a Dual Enrollment course. Separate sessions are held in the different academic disciplines and are facilitated by the respective Deans for each of the college/universities' curriculum departments. Sessions focus on university adjunct expectations, Dual Enrollment student expectations, curriculum standards and grading policies, content and pacing of instructional materials, and rigor in the college-level course.