Glen Ridge Public Schools
Curriculum

Program Title: Library Media Program
Subject: Research and Library Skills
Grade Level: 9 - 12

Library Media Program Mission Statement
The Glen Ridge Public Schools Library Media Program seeks to ensure that students and staff are effective users of ideas and information. Our program encourages students to develop a passion for reading and provides a foundation for lifelong learning in our digital society.

Through direct instruction and reinforcement in collaborative projects, students will understand how library resources are organized, as well as how to access and utilize them. They will realize the value of literature as well as how to analyze and utilize informational texts.

Furthermore, students will formulate effective queries and use library resources to find the answers that they seek. They will use technology to enhance learning and make appropriate use of available library resources. They will also know how to use the Internet responsibly and will present information in meaningful ways.

Library Media Program for Grades 9-12
At the High School level, library and research support is provided on demand as students apply these critical skills to various curriculum-based projects and real world situations. Information literacy skills, including the ability to locate, evaluate, analyze, interpret, synthesize, and present information, are embedded in all curricular content areas and reinforced through the Library Media Program. Recreational reading and an appreciation for fine literature are also encouraged at all levels.

The Library Media Center is a natural hub of activity within the High School and a center for self-directed learning and self-discovery. The High School Library Media program strives to provide opportunities and resources for individual to accomplish academic pursuits and explore personal interests in a welcoming and encouraging environment.

The Library Media Specialist is uniquely positioned within the school community as one who collaborates with all departments and interacts with students at all grade levels, with varying skill sets, needs, and capabilities. As a teacher, an information specialist, a technology advocate, and an instructional consultant, this individual serves as a resource for all students and staff.

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AASL Standards
for 21st Century Learners

According to the American Association of School Librarians learners, in grades 9 - 12 should use library and research skills, resources, & tools to:

1. Inquire, think critically, and gain knowledge
2. Draw conclusions, make informed decisions, apply knowledge to new situations, and create new knowledge
3. Share knowledge and participate ethically and productively as members of our democratic society
4. Pursue personal and aesthetic growth

With the support of the Library Media Program, Glen Ridge High School students accomplish the above through a variety of lessons and projects integrated across the curriculum and built upon at each grade level 9 – 12.

NJCCCS Standards
for English Language Arts

The GRHS Library Media Program supports and reinforces New Jersey Core Curriculum Content State Standards for English Language Arts, including:

- Reading Literature (RL.9-10.1 through RL.11-12.10)
- Reading Informational Text (RI.9-10.1 through RI.11-12.10)
- Writing (W.9-10.1 through W.11-12.10)
- Speaking and Listening (SL.9-10.1 through SL.11-12.6)

Units of instruction with relevant lessons and activities designed to meet the above standards are outlined in the GRHS English Curriculum. Additionally, various lessons and activities in other disciplines (History, Science, etc.) also allow opportunities for students in grades 9 - 12 to strengthen these skills.

NJCCCS Standards
Interdisciplinary Standards

In addition, the following interdisciplinary standards are addressed through the activities involved in the GRHS Library Media Program for grades 9 through 12:

- 8.1 – Computer and Information Literacy: All students will use computer applications to gather and organize information and to solve problems
- 9.1 - 21st-Century Life & Career Skills: All students will demonstrate the creative, critical thinking, collaboration, and problem-solving skills needed to function successfully as both global citizens and workers in diverse ethnic and organizational cultures
GRHS freshman have the opportunity to participate in the following activities, among others across the curriculum, that require, reinforce and strengthen library, media, and research skills:

- Use technology to draft, write, edit and revise various kinds of writing
- Conduct research to prepare for and present a persuasive speech
- View, analyze and compare film versions/clips of novels studied (i.e. Lord of the Flies, The Odyssey, One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest)
- Choose and rehearse a Shakespearean Sonnet for participation in a school wide recitation contest
- Use media resources to recreate and present to the class a scene from a play (i.e. Romeo and Juliet)
- Conduct literary research on various aspects of works studied (i.e. characters, setting, symbolism, themes, etc.)
- Research historical time periods (i.e. Renaissance) and key individuals (i.e. artists, politicians, monarchs etc.)
- Research and analyze primary sources (i.e. Columbus’s letters)
- Conduct research to support an argument and prepare for scientific debate (i.e. benefits vs. dangers of advances in biotechnology)
- Conduct research and prepare projects that demonstrate an understanding of scientific concepts (i.e. characteristics of living things, adaptations, etc.)
- Research current events/health topics (i.e. eating disorders, substance abuse, sexually transmitted diseases, etc.) for health assignments/projects
- Use turnitin.com to check written work for potential plagiarism
- Locate and read a work of fiction or non-fiction for independent reading
- Conduct research and prepare projects for electives (i.e. Journalism, CAD, TV Studio, etc.)
- Utilize technology to prepare and present information in a variety of formats (videos, slideshows, podcasts, models, brochures, posters, etc.)
Library - Media - Research
Sample Activities in Grade 10

GRHS sophomores have the opportunity to participate in the following activities, among others across the curriculum, that require, reinforce and strengthen library, media, and research skills:

● Use technology to draft, write, edit and revise various kinds of writing
● Conduct research on the establishment and origins of New Jersey, Essex County, and the community of Glen Ridge
● Use online research tools to analyze and think critically about an issue (i.e. epidemics) depicted in class assigned reading (i.e. Nemesis)
● Conduct research to support an argument and prepare for a debate (i.e. benefits and perceived dangers of vaccinations)
● Research historical topics to support an argument/point of view (i.e. the Federalists vs. Anti-Federalists)
● Research and analyze primary sources (i.e. Mayflower Compact, U.S. Constitution, The Declaration of Independence, journal excerpts)
● Research and explore the historical context of literature (i.e. Salem Witch Trials and The Crucible, the 1920s and The Great Gatsby)
● Research and synthesize critical interpretations of literature (i.e. The Great Gatsby)
● View, analyze and compare various video depictions/clips of assigned works of literature (i.e. The Crucible) and/or to demonstrate literary concepts/structure (i.e. suspense vs. foreshadowing)
● Listen to audio versions of historical documents (i.e. Constitution and Declaration of Independence) to examine tone and how what it conveys
● Research, choose and analyze a speech to perform
● Conduct literary research on various aspects of works studied (i.e. narrative style, point of view, symbolism, etc.)
● Research current events and topics related to driver’s education (i.e. laws, DUI, violations, distracted driving, auto technology, etc.)
● Use turnitin.com to check written work for potential plagiarism
● Locate and read a novel of student’s choice for independent reading
● Conduct research and prepare projects for electives (i.e. Journalism, CAD, TV Studio, etc.)
● Utilize technology to present and share information in a variety of formats (i.e. mixed media presentations, charts, travel brochures, etc.)
Sample Activities in Grade 11

GRHS juniors have the opportunity to participate in the following activities, among others across the curriculum, that require, reinforce and strengthen library, media, and research skills:

- Use technology to draft, write, edit and revise various kinds of writing
- Research news sources and analyze editorial columns to write an OpEd
- Use online research tools to support an argument (i.e. for or against government surveillance, for or against women’s suffrage, etc.)
- Research critical interpretations of literature (i.e. Frankenstein, The Jungle)
- Locate and read a contemporary novel of choice for independent reading
- Research a literary period (post-colonial) to analyze and compare works
- Research a controversial topic and prepare an analytical essay
- Research a current moral issue and connect it to a novel they have read (i.e. Frankenstein or The Picture of Dorian Gray)
- Research a modern issue in which the government is involved to create a satirical story (i.e. in the manner of Swift’s essay A Modest Proposal)
- Locate and analyze photographs or advertisements (i.e. depicting turn of the century life) to compare and contrast life and times to modern day
- Research and interpret political cartoons (i.e. Spanish-American War)
- Research and analyze primary sources (i.e. inaugural speeches, etc.)
- Use online research tools to conduct historical research (i.e. progressives, reforms, causes of The Great Depression, dropping the Atomic Bomb, etc.)
- Analyze and read aloud a historical speech (i.e. Plunkett’s Honest Graft)
- View, analyze and compare various video depictions/clips of works of literature (i.e. Frankenstein) or historical events (i.e. Iron Jawed Angels)
- Research current events and health topics (i.e. violence, bullying, etc.) to prepare health assignments and projects
- Conduct research and prepare projects that demonstrate an understanding of scientific concepts (i.e. molecular structure, osmosis, diffusion, etc.)
- Research and think critically about financial literacy (credit cards vs. debit cards, renting vs. buying a home, high risk vs. low risk investing, etc.)
- Conduct research and prepare projects for electives (i.e. International Relations, Marketing, Government/Law, Sociology, etc.) or Advanced Placement courses (i.e. AP U.S. History, AP Literature, AP French, etc.)
- Utilize technology to present and share information in a variety of formats (i.e. mixed media presentations, charts, timelines, etc.)
Library - Media - Research

Sample Activities in Grade 12

GRHS seniors have the opportunity to participate in the following activities, among others across the curriculum, that require, reinforce and strengthen library, media, and research skills:

- Use technology to draft, write, edit and revise various kinds of writing
- Research, analyze and compare sample college essays and apply these findings in writing their own essays for applying to college
- Research/synthesize critical interpretations of literature (i.e. The Kite Runner)
- Use online research tools to support an argument on a current social topic of interest and write an argumentative essay
- Conduct research and prepare presentations on the symptoms, causes and treatments of diseases (i.e. skeletal, muscular, nervous, etc.)
- Research current events and health topics (i.e. sexuality, human reproduction, contraception, sexual harassment, etc) to prepare health assignments/projects
- Research and think critically about financial literacy (credit cards vs. debit cards, renting vs. buying a home, high risk vs. low risk investing, etc.)
- Conduct research and prepare projects for electives (i.e. International Relations, Marketing, Photography, Psychology, etc.) or Advanced Placement courses (i.e. AP World History, AP Language, AP Spanish, etc.)
- Utilize technology to present and share information in a variety of formats (i.e. mixed media presentations, models, timelines, etc.)

Library - Media - Research

Methods of Assessment for Grades 9-12

Students will have the opportunity to demonstrate their mastery of library, research and media skills and concepts in the following ways:

- Participation in class discussions and evidence of critical thinking
- In-class presentations, speeches and debates
- Research essays, papers and assignments
- Reading journals and benchmark assignments

Assessments of the above are incorporated across the curriculum and monitored by grade level classroom teachers. When inadequacies in such skills, or the need for reinforcement are identified, teachers request support of and collaborate with the Library Media Specialist.
Physical Resources:

- **Print Collection** - Consisting of approximately 11,000 fiction books, non-fiction books, reference books, biographies, and graphic novels
- **Media Collection** - Consisting mostly of DVDs, as well as some audio CDs, VHS tapes unavailable in DVD, and all-in-one- audio book players
- **Newspapers** - Two major daily papers (NY Times and The Star Ledger) and two weekly local papers (The Glen Ridge Voice and Glen Ridge Paper)
- **Magazines** - A variety of weekly, bi-weekly and monthly periodicals are available for research purposes as well as recreational reading
- **Printing/Scanning Stations** - Five desktop PCs connected to two printers and a scanner
- **Photocopier** - A photocopier is available for students’ convenience
- **Wi-Fi** - Internet connectivity for all school-issued devices
- **Charging Stations** - Available in the library for students’ convenience
- **Large Screen Projection System** - Available for demonstrations and presentations
- **Teaming Tables** - To accommodate small groups collaborating on projects
- **Seating** - To accommodate classes, small groups and those working independently

Online Resources:

- **GRHS Library Webpage** - With easy access links to many other resources
- **Alexandria Researcher** - Library software/search interface from Companion Corp.
- **BCCLS** - Access to online resources and research databases through GRPL
- **FollettShelf** - Access to a variety of digital audio books and e-books
- **Catalist** - Access to a variety of digital audio books that support the curriculum
- **Gale Virtual Reference** – Various e-books for research and recreational reading
- **Discovery Streaming** - High quality, cross curricular instructional video content
- **Ebscohost** - Access to multiple research and periodical databases including MasterFile Premier, Newspaper Source, Points of View, Literary Reference, ERIC
- **Facts on File** - Access to multiple research databases, including American History, Women's History, Ancient History, African American History, American Indian History, Ferguson's Career Guidance Center, Science, Bloom’s Literary Reference Center and more
- **Teen Health and Wellness** - Database of authoritative information on sexuality, diseases, drugs, alcohol, nutrition, fitness, mental health, family life, friendship, dating and more
- **ABC Clio** - World History: Ancient and Medieval eras research database
- **Gale Opposing Viewpoints** - Access to research articles, statistics, and primary source documents representing both sides of hot topics and controversial issues.
- **World Book Online** - Encyclopedia articles plus multi-media content a variety of subjects
- **MLA Style Center** - Writing resources and MLA Quick Guides <https://style.mla.org>
- **Purdue Online Writing Lab** - College level writing resources <owl.english.purdue.edu/owl>
- **Easybib.com** - Bibliography generator and citation builder site <www.easybib.com>
- **Turnitin.com** - Plagiarism prevention and writing feedback studio <www.turnitin.com>