

Solano County Early Assessment Program News

Issue 2

Spring 2013

Expository Reading and Writing Course: Host a Training!

The Expository Reading and Writing Curriculum (ERWC) was designed by high school and CSU faculty as a full-year college preparatory course to meet needs determined by the CSU English Placement Test Committee. Starting with the graduating class of 2013, seniors who scored "Conditionally Ready" in English on the EAP can meet that condition by completing an adopted full-year ERWC course. A second edition of the ERWC curriculum will be released in late May, along with supplemental modules for grades 7-11. If your school or district has yet to adopt ERWC, this is an ideal time to do so.

If you are interested in hosting an ERWC workshop at your school or district, please contact Elaine Kociolek. The 3.5 day training is provided free of cost to school districts, though schools are responsible for the cost of substitutes. Please note that training availability is based on funding. A minimum of 3 months' notice is needed to schedule a workshop series.

Solano County Early Assessment Program Office

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Greetings from Solano County EAP!

Happy New Year from the Solano County Early Assessment Program office at The California Maritime Academy! In this edition, we have updates on the second edition of the Expository Reading & Writing Curriculum, upcoming 7th-11th grade ERWC modules, and Common Core standards integration.



Updates from the CSU

Due to the passage of Proposition 30, all 23 CSU campuses are currently in the process of evaluating applications for admission to reflect initial admissions targets. During the initial Fall 2013 application period, the CSU experienced a 9.8% increase in the volume of unduplicated applicants from 2012, including a 4.8% increase in the number of first-time freshman applicants. As of the time of publication, some campuses and majors are still accepting applications. Please advise your students to check <http://www.csumentor.edu> for more information.

We have received many questions recently in regards to the effects of the Common Core State Standards on the EAP program and the CSU. The CSU is working with the Smarter Balanced Consortium to provide feedback on a new proposed 11th Grade College Readiness Exam for use across Smarter Balanced states. The new edition of the ERWC curriculum, discussed in further depth on the next page, is aligned the Common Core State Standards. Your EAP representatives look forward to continuing to support your students in preparing for college academics.

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ERWC Second Edition is Coming!

The second edition of the CSU Expository Reading and Writing Course will be released in late May 2013. The Assignment Template has been revised and aligned to the Common Core State Standards.

Modules retained from the first edition of the ERWC have been revised in alignment with the new Assignment Template and the Common Core State Standards. The modules *Left Hand of Darkness*, "Justice: Childhood Love Lessons," and "Going for the Look" have been retired. "The Last Meow" has been revised and moved to the new supplemental modules for grade 11 (see next page). Updated texts will be provided for many existing modules. We hope that these updates will provide a better, more interactive learning experience for your students.

These new modules are currently being piloted across the state, and will be available in the ERWC Online Community for currently trained teachers upon their release. Teachers who have been trained in the first edition will not be asked to retrain at this time.

We look forward to receiving your feedback on the second edition as the new curriculum is adopted!

2013 EAP Testing Dates

The essay window for 2013 EAP testing is March 5 through March 31. Test materials will need to be postmarked by April 6. All essays must be returned at one time; late papers cannot be scored.

It is recommended that enough EAP essay materials be ordered for all students taking the English Language Arts 11 CST. If additional test materials are needed, a supplemental order can be placed until March 23rd.

Congratulations to our recent ERWC full adoption school!

Mare Island Technology Academy

For information on adopting the ERWC curriculum at your school, contact Elaine Kociolek, Regional EAP Coordinator.

Upcoming Second Edition Modules

Semester One

- Introductory Mini-Module (new module, 1-2 days)
- 1. What's Next? Thinking About Life After High School (new module)
- 2. Rhetoric of the Op-Ed Page (two new texts in addition to the original texts)
- 3. Racial Profiling (new text)
- 4. The Value of Life (two or three new texts, two original texts, new life value calculators, optional full-treatment of Hamlet)
- 5. Good Food/Bad Food (previously title Fast Food; all new texts)
- 6. Into the Wild

Semester Two

1. Bring a Text You Like to Class
2. Juvenile Justice (two original texts and three new texts)
3. Politics of Food
4. Language, Gender, and Culture (one original text and four new texts)
5. *1984* (new module)
Brave New World (new module—teachers can opt to teach *Brave New World* or *1984*)
6. Bullying: A Research Project (two new texts and 11 original texts)
 - o Concluding Mini-Module (reflection) (new module, 1-2 days)

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A Sneak Peak at Modules for Grades 7-11

Twenty modules have been developed for grades 7-11 – four per grade – for release in early 2013.

Grade 7

1. What It Takes to Be Great
2. Tap vs. Bottled Water
3. Helicopter Parents
4. The Impact of Celebrities

Grade 8

1. Social Networking or Antisocial Networking
2. When is Lying Okay?
3. Robots in School
4. The Construction of a College Experience

Grade 9

1. Hip Hop Goes Global
2. The Undercover Parent
3. Extreme Sports: What's the Deal?
4. Threatening Stereotypes

Grade 10

1. In Pursuit of Unhappiness
2. River Rights: Whose Water Is It?
3. Leopard Man
4. Age of Responsibility

Grade 11

1. Island Civilization
2. To Clone or Not to Clone
3. Violence in the Media
4. The Last Meow

High School Modules: These new modules will be made available to teachers in grades 9-12 at regularly scheduled ERWC workshops for high school teachers. They will be provided on a flash drive; print copies will not be available. The modules will also be available in the ERWC Online Community.

Middle School Modules: The CSU Chancellor's Office and the Executive Committee of CISC is currently in discussion about the parameters of an agreement to offer professional learning for teachers at the middle school level on a fee-for-service/cost-recovery basis. More information will be available later in the spring semester.

Upcoming Cal Maritime College Outreach Events



College: Making it Happen

Designed for the families of 6th-9th graders, the "College: Making it Happen" program helps families with early academic and financial planning with the goal of ensuring that high school students have choices after graduation. This workshop will include presentations from CSU and UC outreach and financial aid representatives, and is cosponsored by California Maritime Academy, Vallejo City Unified School District, and Fighting Back Partnership as part of the Vallejo City Unified School District's Parent University.

Date: Wednesday, February 13, 2013

Time: 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Location: Jesse Bethel High School Little Theater

Senior FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) Workshop

California Maritime Academy's Office of Financial Aid is proud to sponsor its first annual Senior FAFSA Workshop. The free program is designed for all high school seniors who are considering attending a 2- or 4-year college and their families.

The Financial Aid team will go through a brief presentation about the financial aid process, and then work with the students and parents/ guardians to complete their individual FAFSAs. Please join us for this very important program on making the cost of college attainable. More information on this event will be distributed to school sites in late January.

Date: Tuesday, February 19, 2013

Time: 6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Location: California Maritime Academy, Laboratory Building, 200 Maritime Academy Drive, Vallejo

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ERWC Adoption Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Why should my school consider ERWC full adoption?

A: Adoption of the ERWC as a full-year course for seniors will allow those students who placed as “Conditionally Ready” on the English EAP exam to meet that condition with a C or better both semester, thus avoiding further CSU placement tests or remedial English courses. The course also provides a terrific transition for college-bound seniors who will be expected to work with expository texts as college freshmen without direct guidance on strategies for reading and writing.

Q: What steps do I need to take to adopt ERWC at my school?

A: Schools need to complete the following steps:

1. Identify a site coordinator.
2. Submit an application to the California State University. This is available on the ERWC Online Community, and can be provided by your EAP coordinator.
3. Ensure that at least 75% of the implementing English teachers have participated in approved professional development for the course.
4. Upload the course into the UC Doorways Web site.

Q: Who should our ERWC site coordinator be, and what are their responsibilities?

A: The site coordinator who will be responsible for updating the school’s profile, providing program data through an annual online survey, overseeing (in conjunction with other school administrators as appropriate) the implementation of the course. He or she will also need to certify annually that the course is being taught as designed. English department chairpersons often serve as site coordinator, but any faculty member or administrator who will be working with the program is appropriate.

For more information, please contact Elaine Kociolek, Regional EAP Coordinator, at 707-654-1288 or ekociolek@csum.edu.

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