

Multi-cultural Education in Edgenuity



iNACOL's Standards for Quality Online Courses require that all courses reflect "multicultural education and [are] accurate, current and free of bias." This document demonstrates how Edgenuity's courses meet and exceed this standard.

A. Training and Guidelines for Curriculum Development Team

The online course content and supporting materials reflect a culturally diverse perspective, every effort is made to avoid bias, and developers receive regular training on how to make content accessible to and reflective of students from all backgrounds. In implementations with high fidelity, internal data suggests no statistically significant difference in performance across ethnic groups, social class, or gender. In addition to carefully training development staff to ensure courses are free of bias, Edgenuity regularly reviews and updates to ensure that content is accurate and current.

B. Course Examples

IMAGERY REFLECTS AN ARRAY OF CULTURES

As students study fiction and nonfiction texts, they analyze how historical content and culture impact the author's purpose and meaning.

English 10: Sugar Changed the World, Part 3: Word Choice and Multimedia

English 9: Historical Context and Conflict in Lizzie Bright and the Buckminster Boy, Part 1

Students also examine the impact of an array of cultures in social studies courses:

MS Ancient World History: Origins of Hinduism

MS Ancient World History: Origins of Judaism

Edgenuity offers an inclusive curriculum, embracing diverse cultures and backgrounds in the content we present and in the images and other media used throughout our courses.

Lesson Question What skills are needed to form healthy relationships?

Contemporary Health: Skills for Health Relationships

Lesson Question How are tools and technology used in science?

Life Science: Experimental Design Principles

ASSIGNMENT Write about lab safety.

In this assignment, you will demonstrate what you learned about being safe in the biology laboratory.

You will list ten lab safety rules and write step-by-step plans to deal with three lab emergencies.

COMPLETE

Biology: Laboratory Safety

PROFILES INCLUDE PEOPLE OF MANY BACKGROUNDS

Edgenuity courses feature in-depth profiles of modern and historical figures who have shaped the worlds of science, politics, mathematics, literature, and more—including men and women from a variety of backgrounds.

Profile **Maya Angelou (1928–2014)**

- Was born in St. Louis, Missouri, as Marguerite Ann Johnson
- Experienced a traumatic childhood event in St. Louis, Missouri
- Moved to New York in 1958 and joined the Harlem Writers Guild
- Changed her name to Maya Angelou
- Published *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* in 1969
- Has more than fifty honorary degrees

Photo by Adria Richards

Contemporary Health: Skills for Health Relationships

Profile **Sonia Nazario (1960–Present)**

- Was born in Wisconsin and grew up in Kansas and Argentina
- Has over 35 years of writing experience for newspapers in the United States
- Writes about Latin America and the Latino experience in America
- Has won numerous awards for her work, including a Pulitzer Prize
- Wrote *Enrique's Journey*, which tells the story of a Honduran immigrant

Life Science: Experimental Design Principles

Profile **Rabindranath Tagore (1861–1941)**

- Was born in India but studied law in England
- Wrote plays, essays, novels, stories, and poetry in the Bengali language
- Was the first Asian writer to receive the Nobel Prize in Literature
- Expressed support for India's independence from British rule

English 12: Style in Poems by Rabindranath Tagore

Profile **Randa Abdel-Fattah (b. 1979)**

- Was born in Sydney, Australia, in 1979
- Attended Catholic elementary school and Islamic secondary school
- Is a writer, lawyer, and interfaith advocate
- Is committed to interfaith dialogue and human rights
- Wrote her first book, *Does My Head Look Big in This?*, at the age of 18

English 10: Comparing Ideas across Genres

Read part of Frida Kahlo to explore how the author portrays events in Kahlo's life.

As you read, think about:

- how the author creates a story based on the facts of Frida Kahlo's life
- how the author helps readers understand the significant events that define her experiences
- why the author chooses the words she does
- how the author's words describe events in Kahlo's life and indicate how the author feels about the subject.

Read the biography [here](#).

Photo by Carl Van Vechten

English 6: Frida Kahlo: Word Choice in a Biography

EXAMPLES SHOW PEOPLE FROM ALL CULTURES INVOLVED IN POSITIVE ROLES AND ACTIVITIES

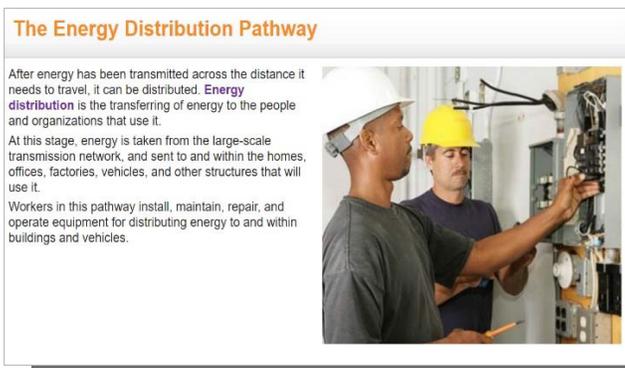
Care is taken to ensure that people from multiple cultures, backgrounds, and genders are shown engaged in professional activities, particularly in careers that require math and science. For example, the opening image from this Biology lesson on Analyzing Data and Drawing Conclusions (below) shows a scientist of color making observations in a notebook. Other images show people of all backgrounds engaged in scientific research and practice, as well as other roles and careers that require advanced STEM study.



Biology: Analyzing Data and Drawing Conclusions



Life Science: Measurement



Career Explorations: Energy Career Pathways

READINGS REFLECT AUTHORS OF MANY BACKGROUNDS

In English language arts, texts are high quality, rigorous, and support students advancing toward independent, grade-level reading. Throughout Edgenuity courses, students read a variety of fiction and nonfiction texts that address a wide variety of subjects, themes, and worldviews and are appropriately complex for the grade level.

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FROM MY STORY

by Rosa Parks

As you read, highlight descriptions that reveal Parks's unique perspective about the events she describes.

from Chapter 8 "You're Under Arrest"



English 9: Structure and Narrative: Rosa Parks' Memoir, My Story

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THE BEGINNINGS OF THE MAASAI

Highlight mythical details, and use sticky notes to record important plot details to include in a summary.

I am the daughter of the great Noiterkob, the father of the Maasai tribe in Africa. You might think that this makes me special, but my father believes that I should live just like the rest of the tribe. Thus, he sends me to look after our tribe's cattle with the other daughters and sons. These cattle are sacred, because they are actually a divine gift from the sky god, Enkai. Our tribe makes a living by caring for the cattle, feeding them, and protecting them.



Photo by William Warby
The Maasai tribe welcoming ceremony

English 9: Introduction to Mythology

ASSIGNMENT

Read Anaya's essay "Take the Tortillas out of Your Poetry" to analyze elements of voice.

- Cultural identity is important to Anaya.
- This passage is about refusing to conform by removing cultural elements from writing.
- Books, like Anaya's, that don't conform are often banned from schools and libraries.
- Anaya's *Bless Me, Ultima* is number thirty-two on a list of the most commonly banned books.

Click [here](#) to read his essay.



Photo by Marro

English 11: Exploring Cultural Identity through Langua

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"TWELFTH SONG OF THE THUNDER"

TRANSLATED BY DR. WASHINGTON MATTHEWS

As you read, highlight the repetition in the chant. Use sticky notes to identify lines of the chant that reflect Navajo culture and heritage.

AUDIO Hear the poem read aloud here.

The voice that beautifies the land!

The voice above,



English 7: Structure and Culture in "Twelfth Song of the Thunder"

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THE MEDICINE BAG

BY VIRGINIA DRIVING HAWK SNEVE

So that's how Grandpa came to be with us for two months. My friends kept asking to come see the old man, but I put them off. I told myself that I didn't want them laughing at Grandpa. But even as I made excuses, I knew it wasn't Grandpa that I was afraid they'd laugh at.

Nothing bothered Cheryl about bringing her friends to see Grandpa. Every day after school started, there'd be a crew of giggling little girls or round-eyed little boys crowded around the old man on the patio, where he'd gotten in the habit of sitting every afternoon.

Grandpa would smile in his gentle way and patiently answer their questions, or he'd tell them stories of brave warriors, ghosts, animals, and the kids listened in awed silence. Those little guys thought Grandpa was great.



Martin was unsure how he felt when grandpa first came.

English 8: Conflict and Symbolism in "The Medicine Bag"

The qualities of the text, whether classic or modern, expose students to a variety of print and digital media while providing students opportunities to study the careful and intentional use of language, impact on audience, purpose in the wider world, and development of ideas such that they are both timely and timeless.

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"RAYMOND'S RUN"

BY TONI CADE BAMBARA

Then here comes Mr. Pearson with his clipboard and his cards and pencils and whistles and safety pins and fifty million other things he's always dropping all over the place with his clumsy self. He sticks out in a crowd because he's on stilts. We used to call him Jack and the Beanstalk to get him mad. But I'm the only one that can outrun him and get away, and I'm too grown for that silliness now.

"Well, Squeaky," he says, checking my name off the list and handing me number seven and two pins. And I'm thinking he's got no right to call me Squeaky if I can't call him Beanstalk.



English 8: Voice and Characters in "Raymond's Run"

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FROM THE BOY WHO HARNESSSED THE WIND

BY WILLIAM KAMKWAMBA AND BRYAN MEALER

Chapter Nine

Most students at Kachokolo Secondary and Wimbe Primary stopped going to school during the **famine**. After I dropped out, Gilbert continued to go to classes, and he told me that each day fewer and fewer classmates showed up. The teachers would call recess around 9:40 A.M., then disappear themselves into the fields and trading center to search for food. By February, there was no school at all.

But as the **drowse** and pumpkins became ready, and the district slowly **reclaimed** its energy, students began returning to school



English 6: Connecting to Text in The Boy Who Harnesssed the Wind

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"THE LEADER IN THE MIRROR"

by Pat Mora

As you read, highlight symbols that Mora includes in her essay. Use sticky notes to record your ideas about Mora's purpose for writing.



Each year, the newspaper in my hometown of El Paso, Texas,

English 12: Purpose and Format in "The Leader in the Mirror"

Assignment

Listen to an audio report about Miep Gies to take notes on the central ideas.

As you listen, remember to:

- take notes on the main idea and important details.
- be prepared to turn those notes into a summary.



English 6: Audio Report: Remembering Miep Gies

ASSIGNMENT

Read "Death by Black Hole" to understand its central ideas and analyze messages.

- Published in 2007, *Death by Black Hole: And Other Cosmic Quandaries* is a collection of essays about the cosmos by Neil deGrasse Tyson.
- The book was a *New York Times* best-seller.
- The selection you will read is the title essay from the book.

Click [here](#) to read the selection.

COMPLETE



English 11: The Poetry of Physics

ON-SCREEN TEACHERS REFLECT CULTURAL DIVERSITY

On-screen teachers themselves come from many different cultural backgrounds, including Hispanic, Native American, African American, and Asian, among others.

Diversity in Edgenuity

The image displays a grid of 28 diverse on-screen teachers, arranged in three rows. The top row has 7 teachers, the middle row has 7 teachers, and the bottom row has 7 teachers. In the center of the grid, there are two instructional content cards. The left card is titled "How do writers express ideas and perspectives about the same topic through different genres?" and features an image of two young women, one wearing a pink hijab. The right card is titled "Read 'A Latina Judge's Voice' to analyze the use of rhetorical techniques." and includes a list of key points: "authors have a specific purpose," "words are chosen to support the author's purpose," and "speakers use a variety of rhetorical appeals and techniques to support their purposes." Below the list is a link to "Read the speech [here](#)." and an image of a woman in a judge's robe.

Expert Teachers | A Variety of Perspectives | Diverse Texts, Authors, and Examples