9th-10th Grade Academic Content Standards for English Language Arts

Grade Level Indicator	Implementation Plan
1. Compose open-ended questions for research, assigned or personal interest, and modify questions as necessary during inquiry and investigation to narrow the focus or extend the investigation.	 Do extensive brainstorming and discussion to select topic and formulate/refine research question. Use a topic-focusing organizer handout and emphasize refining topic through initial research.
2. Identify appropriate sources and gather relevant information from multiple sources (e.g., school library catalogs, online databases, electronic resources and Internet-based resources).	 Use library work days to find sources. Assign an annotated working bibliography.
3. Determine the accuracy of sources and the credibility of the author by analyzing the sources' validity (e.g., authority, accuracy, objectivity, publication date and coverage, etc.).	 Instruct students in source evaluation criteria and procedures, using Librarian and emphasizing problems and criteria with Web sources. Use an organizer for Web site evaluation.
4. Evaluate and systematically organize important information, and select appropriate sources to support central ideas, concepts and themes.	 Guide students in effective note-taking, organizing of information. Assign annotated bibliography of more sources than will be required to be used in final draft; require student evaluation of usefulness of sources.
5. Integrate quotations and citations into written text to maintain a flow of ideas.	 Instruct students in quotation and citation format, including use of signal phrases and parenthetical MLA format, emphasizing rules for proper quotation and avoiding plagiarism. Instruct in summarizing and paraphrasing with citations in MLA format, emphasizing rules regarding plagiarism.
6. Use style guides to produce oral and written reports that give proper credit for sources and include an acceptable format for source acknowledgement.	 Provide students with MLA format guidelines (available in <u>A Writer's Reference</u>) and require correct usage. Require annotated bibliography for research paper to be done in correct format to qualify the research paper grade. Assign oral report or precis of paper with MLA source documentation.

Standard: Research			
Grade Level Indicator	Implementation Plan		
7. Use a variety of communication techniques including oral, visual, written or multimedia reports, to present information that supports a clear position about the topic or research question and to maintain an appropriate balance between researched information and original ideas.	 Assign oral report/precis, with a component explaining the validity and credibility of sources. Encourage or require charts, graphs, transparencies or PowerPoint documents with oral reports. Emphasize strategic selection and integration of sources within the flow of the writer or speaker's own ideas or formulations. Assess for clarity. 		