1818 Advanced College Credit Program
Departmental Liaison's Classroom Visit Summary

Name of School: Litchfield H.S. Date: 1/24/14

Adjunct Instructor: Amanda Lamore Discipline: English

Class: English 230 Mixed Y N

Textbook: Same as on campus Approved by Liaison

Title: various literary works used in lieu of textbook

Syllabus: On File Available at visit Unavailable

Instructional Methodology Observed:
Ms. Lamore began class with an explanation of next week's assignment, a short (7-9 minute)
presentation on a topic related to the novel they are currently reading (Tim O'Brien's The Things
They Carried). The students are to work on an outline for their presentation over the weekend.
She then asked students to take out the homework due today, in which they had written down
several questions about the assigned readings. The students got into groups of two and three and
chose their favorite question, which they wrote on the blackboard. They spent the rest of the class
period within their groups, developing an answer to their favorite question. Their answer had to
involve a thesis plus support for that thesis. This stuck me as a creative way to practice
developing outlines for research papers. Next week, the students will work on answering other
groups' questions about the text, in addition to preparing for their presentations.

Student Assessment Strategies Observed:
None in this class period

Overall comparability of this course to sections taught on campus:

X Similar

More rigorous

Less rigorous

Comments: This class is unusual in that it fulfills a speech requirement for Litchfield H.S., as
well as an "Introduction to the Novel" requirement for SLU. Ms. Lamore has found an innovative
way to fulfill both sets of requirements by having students do frequent presentations on topics
related to the novels they read. This week, for example, the students are reading The Things They
Carried by Tim O'Brien, and next week they are doing presentations on topics related to the
novel's setting in the Vietnam War (such as PTSD, the draft, etc.)

Areas of Strength: Ms. Lamore has a great rapport with the students, and her syllabus is creative
and appealing. She has done a great job choosing 20th- and 21st-century novels that most
students will find relatable in terms of language and setting. She is also doing a good job of
integrating the public speaking component of the class with its emphasis on writing and research.

Areas of Concern:
Additional Comments:

Anne Stiles
University Departmental Liaison