

Advanced Academics Curriculum Evaluation (AACE) Task Force Checklist

Content

- ___ 1. Presents content related to broad issues, themes, or problems
- ___ 2. Integrates multiple disciplines
- ___ 3. Presents comprehensive, related, and mutually reinforcing experiences
- ___ 4. Allows for in-depth learning of a self-selected topic
- ___ 5. Addresses dilemmas, controversies, biases, and ethical questions involved in the discipline
- ___ 6. Addresses “unanswered questions,” or issues still not understood about this discipline
- ___ 7. Requires students to formulate questions; predict and hypothesize about these questions; and judge the credibility of these explanations
- ___ 8. Fosters connection between content and potential career fields and/or leadership opportunities
- ___ 9. Offers opportunities for students to engage in activities aligned with students’ individual strengths, preferences or interests
- ___ 10. Pulls information from varied resources and media (such as text books, articles, and primary source material)
- ___ 11. Allows for the acceleration of content in an area of strength
- ___ 12. Integrates fine arts with content learning
- ___ 13. Accelerates learning of basic skills through complex presentation
- ___ 14. Links emotion and experience to learning

Process

- ___ 1. Develops independent or self-directed study skills
- ___ 2. Focuses on open-ended tasks
- ___ 3. Integrates basic skills and higher-level thinking skills
- ___ 4. Develops complex, abstract, and/or higher-order thinking skills
- ___ 5. Develops a research-oriented model for acquiring and synthesizing information
- ___ 6. Encourages the acquisition of skills, methodologies, and dispositions of professionals practicing in the field
- ___ 7. Offers an array of learning opportunities that include whole-class, small-group, and individual instruction and activities
- ___ 8. Offers out-of-school learning options
- ___ 9. Offers assignments that include visual and verbal components
- ___ 10. Uses graphic organizers to develop concepts

Product

- ___ 1. Develops products that challenge existing ideas and produce “new” ideas
- ___ 2. Develops products that use new techniques, materials, and forms
- ___ 3. Evaluates student outcomes through self-appraisal, criterion-referenced, and/or standardized instruments

Advanced Academics Curriculum Evaluation (AACE) Task Force Checklist

Product (continued)

- ___ 4. Develops products related to real-world applications or problem-solving
- ___ 5. Offers opportunities for students to interact with role models, community resources, or professionals in the field
- ___ 6. Offers opportunities for in-class projects and homework

Affect

- ___ 1. Encourages the development of self understanding
- ___ 2. Encourages growth and change in the student's abilities toward self-actualization
- ___ 3. Includes mentors/tutors who share common interests with students

Talent Development

- ___ 1. Offers opportunities for students to engage in activities aligned with students' individual preferences, strengths, or interests
- ___ 2. Fosters connection between content and potential career fields and/or leadership opportunities
- ___ 3. Offers opportunities for students to interact with role models, community resources, or professionals in the field
- ___ 4. Encourages the acquisition of skills, methodologies, and dispositions of professionals practicing in the field

Program Design and Administration

- ___ 1. Offers opportunities for advanced teacher training
- ___ 2. Promotes the communication of students' progress to parents
- ___ 3. Describes policies for identification of students which include multiple criteria (qualitative and quantitative) in order to meet the needs of and encouragement of all student populations' participation