Considerations for Unit Planning

Lesson Planning vs. Unit Planning	***Unit planning and lesson planning are similar. You need to think about:*** • Goals • Necessary prior knowledge • Progression of ideas and skills • Objectives • Assessments • Room layout • Necessary materials • Scaffolding • Makeup of the class
Questions you need to ask yourself at the outset	• What do you want students to know or be able to do by the end of the unit? • Is there a particular final deliverable (project, video, presentation, creation, etc.) that you want students to produce? • Why do you want students to produce that deliverable and know/be able to do what you want them to? • How will you scaffold (break down) the information and skills for students so they reach the end goals you have planned?

Scaffolding Material – Deciding what is necessary	**Assessments**	• What kinds of assessments will you give students? • Will they be formal or informal and why? • Will they be homework, quizzes and tests, projects, essays, speeches, presentations, models, something other? Why? • When will they be given and how much time will students have to complete them? • What models will you need to provide in order for students to complete the assessment? • What rubrics and instruction sheets will students need to complete the assessment? • What does above average, proficiency, and below average look like on these assessments? • How will you utilize these assessments, particularly homework, in class to extend learning? • What kinds of assessments/work will students need to put in at home in order for you to finish what you need to?
	Skills & Knowledge	• What skills/knowledge does the end goal require students to have in order to complete it? • In what order must skills/knowledge be introduced? • How often and in what ways must skills/knowledge be practiced in order for students to master it?
	Lesson Plans	• How will you structure your daily lesson plans – what routines will you implement and why? • How will those routines contribute to students reaching the goals you have established? • What kinds of materials will you utilize and why (textbooks, articles, websites, past student work, books, videos, etc.)? • Will you have to do research in order to provide information to students? • What kinds of technology will you utilize and why? • What pieces of the puzzle do you already have (activities/plans you want to use)? • How do those pieces fit together across time – what lesson comes first, second, third, etc.