Pre-AP Middle School English  
Amanda Burgin, instructor

Course Description:  
This course will provide participants with lessons that incorporate AP concepts for increased rigor in the middle school classroom. Participants will work through a variety of lessons that address close reading and analysis, rhetoric, grammar, writing, and research. Lessons will be presented in whole group and grade-level groups, and will include incorporating long-term projects, the use of Interactive Student Notebooks, and technology. Teachers will conclude the week by collaborating to create new lessons.

What participants should bring:

- Post-It notes
- highlighters
- poem, novel, short piece of literature, or non-fiction piece currently taught or that you plan to teach in the next school year
- laptop – fully charged

Biography

Ms. Amanda Burgin has taught at Valley View Middle School in the Ysleta Independent School District since 1992. She earned both a Bachelors Degree in Liberal Arts and Masters Degree in British and American Literature from the University of Texas at El Paso. She began presenting at College Board workshops in 1998. She was selected as one of the District's Top Ten Secondary Teachers of the Year for the 2007-2008 school year. She was cowriter of the Texas Schools to Watch application which was accepted making Valley View one of two schools in the El Paso area that are identified as one and one of five in the state of Texas for the 2014-2015 school year. Valley View is also listed as a National School to Watch.

She has served on several curriculum committees for the Ysleta Independent School District and attended the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Belfer National Conference for Teachers in Washington D.C. As a yearbook sponsor, she has produced fifteen books. She is the campus' U.I.L. Ready Writing coach.

She had her first story, "Snow Bound," published May 24, 2007 in Chinook Volume 7 published by Blackfly Press and still continues to write and publish online.