

April 2013

A monthly newsletter for social studies educators

Updates on the historical document requirements and new social studies assessments

Recently enacted legislation requires that the new social studies assessments test the comprehension of specific historical documents identified in the course syllabi for American history and American government. By July 1, districts must also adopt interim end-of-course exams covering these documents that will be given to all students taking American history and American government for credit during the 2013-2014 school year. More information about the historical document provisions can be found [here](#).

ODE also is developing test items for the new social studies assessments, which will be introduced in the 2014-2015 school year. End-of-year exams for social studies are under development for grades 4 and 6. For high school, end-of-course exams will be given in American history and American government. Watch for further information on assessments in future issues of the *Social Studies Signal*.

ODE seeking input for the Social Studies Model Curricula

ODE is soliciting input from the field for instructional strategies, ideas for diverse learners, Web resources, intra- and inter-disciplinary connections and essential questions to include in the social studies model curricula. Suggestions can be submitted [here](#). The site also includes the *Social Studies Model Curriculum Resource Evaluation Tool*.

ODE offers free Advanced Placement summer workshops

ODE will offer free Advanced Placement summer workshops to all Ohio teachers. Those interested in participating can register through STARS for the events. Ashland University graduate credit is available for the highlighted courses below:

Dates	Location	City	Content Area
6/17-20	Ashland University	Columbus	Government & Politics: United States
6/17	Bowling Green State University	Bowling Green	Psychology

For a tutorial on registering for a workshop, click [here](#).

New OCSS Channel provides plethora of social studies resources

The Ohio Council for the Social Studies (OCSS) has launched a new site targeted to Ohio educators teaching social studies. The [OCSS Channel](#) features a collection of professional development videos and classroom resources from *YouTube*, *Vimeo* and the *Teacher Channel* that can help teachers prepare and transition to Ohio's New Learning Standards for Social Studies and the ELA Common Core. The [Teacher Channel](#) has 57 high-quality professional development videos for social studies teachers, including 11 videos of teachers demonstrating the *Reading Like a Historian* approach. The [OCSS YouTube Channel](#) features videos from Stanford History Education Group, Bill of Rights Institute, Gilder Lehrman, Choices Program, Gapminder, Khan Academy, TED Talks, Library of Congress, National Geographic, Smithsonian, DBQ Project and many more. To find out more about this project, make a comment about a particular video or to contribute to the OCSS Channel, please "subscribe" to the [OCSS YouTube Channel](#) or email Corbin Moore, OCSS vice president, at corbinmoore1@gmail.com.

To receive updates about this project and the latest social studies news "like" for OCSS on [Facebook](#) or follow [@OCSSNetwork](#) on Twitter.

Want to start a student-led service project at your school? Check out Youth for Justice!

Visit the Youth for Justice Summit, May 7, and see Ohio students present their projects. Some of the topics students will address at this year's Summit include bullying, recycling, animal abuse and teen violence. A program of the Ohio Center for Law-Related Education (OCLRE), Youth for Justice aims to empower young people to address the problems they face in their schools and communities. Volunteer as a judge or attend as a visitor to learn how to start your own team. Email swessling@ocle.org for more information. Don't miss out on the difference youth are making in their communities!

Mock trial news: 2013 state champion, opportunity to get involved in 2014

Indian Hill High School in Cincinnati won the 30th annual Ohio Mock Trial Competition, defeating Orange High School at the state finals on March 9. Indian Hill will represent Ohio at the National Mock Trial Championship in Indianapolis, IN, May 9-11.

While this year's mock trial season is over, it's never too late – or too soon – to get involved. To start a mock trial program in your classroom or school, visit the Ohio Center for Law-related Education [online](#) to learn about upcoming professional development. For additional information, contact Ohio Mock Trial program coordinator Todd Burch at tburch@ocle.org.

2013 OHS Educator Appreciation Day

This summer, the Ohio Historical Society (OHS) is hosting an Educator Appreciation Day at its headquarters in Columbus. The event will take place on Saturday, Aug. 10 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. The appreciation day features **free admission** for school employees and their families to the Ohio History Center's Museum and Ohio Village, **free** teacher professional development workshops on historical thinking and the *Founding of America Documents*, teacher resource fair and special activities for families! For more information or to RSVP, please call 614-297-2663 or e-mail reservations@ohiohistory.org.

Free Financial Education Conference is offered for Ohio educators

The University of Cincinnati is hosting the annual Financial Education Conference on April 17 at the Sharonville Convention Center, 11355 Chester Road, Sharonville, Ohio. The hours are from 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. The program theme is *TAKING STOCK: Success with Senate Bill 311*. The conference will bring together educators to share and provide new strategies and resources for implementation of the Ohio Senate Bill 311 and House Bill 1 financial education mandates. The conference will provide an opportunity for teachers to network and share successes. New resources for teaching financial education topics will be introduced. There is no charge to attend the conference. School districts will be reimbursed for substitutes for the day for the first 100 registrations. There also is an opportunity to register for graduate credit at a greatly reduced tuition payment. **The registration deadline is Wednesday, April 10.** To register and for more information, click [here](#), or contact Doug Haskell, Professional Development Director at (513) 556-2951 or douglas.haskell@uc.edu.

New Stanford History Education Group websites provide lessons and assessments aligned to Common Core and Ohio social studies standards

The Stanford History Education Group recently launched a series of websites that will assist teachers to align lessons to Common Core and Ohio's New Learning Standards for Social Studies. The Reading Like a Historian program provides a four-step process of analyzing documents: sourcing, contextualizing, close reading and corroboration. The [website](#) provides access to the award-winning full curriculum of U.S. history lessons and newly released world history lessons. [Beyond the Bubble](#) offers lesson plans and assessments aligned to the ELA Common Core standards for social studies in grades 6-12. The group also offers the [RLAH YouTube Channel](#) with instructional videos on their methods and strategies for both Reading Like a Historian and Beyond the Bubble. Additional high-quality instructional videos on the Reading Like a Historian approach can be found at the Teaching Channel [website](#).

The *Reading Like a Historian* approach also can be used at the elementary level to teach students how to do the work of historians as well. [Ohio's New Learning Standards for Social Studies](#) (historical thinking and associated social studies skills) and the [ELA Common Core Standards](#) for grades K-5 (reading informational text, writing, and speaking and listening skills) include expectations for students to analyze documents and compose historical narratives. The Bringing History Home (BHH) [website](#) and [BHH YouTube Channel](#) provide lesson and video examples for elementary teachers and their students. Look for more historical thinking updates and resources from [OCSS](#) in the upcoming months.

New resource from George Washington's historic Mount Vernon – The Digital Encyclopedia of George Washington!

The Fred W. Smith National Library for the Study of George Washington at Mount Vernon recently launched [The Digital Encyclopedia of George Washington](#). Students and teachers can access hundreds of entries spanning the life of George Washington and the history and preservation of his Mount Vernon estate written by George Washington experts and scholars from around the world. The encyclopedia is continually growing, so check back often for new information and resources.

The National Humanities Center offers free online seminars

American in Class is provided by the National Humanities Center and offers free seminars led by distinguished scholars that focus on teaching with primary sources – historical documents, literary texts, visual images and audio material. Emphasizing critical analysis and close reading, they address the skills of the [Common Core State Standards](#) while giving teachers the opportunity to deepen their content knowledge. Seminar texts are provided free online. The center draws texts from a variety of sources, including America in Class® [primary sources](#) and [lessons](#), and attempts to select fresh material that will invigorate classroom instruction. For more details and registration, click [here](#).

Facing History and Ourselves offers free publication with writing strategies

Common Core Writing Prompts and Strategies is a free publication offered online by *Facing History and Ourselves*. This is offered as a supplement to *Choices in Little Rock*, a teaching unit that focuses on efforts to desegregate Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas in 1957. This free unit includes the Common Core State Standards through an argumentative writing assessment and explores civic choices – the decisions people make as citizens in a democracy. The supplement includes specific writing prompts and teaching strategies that ask students to use evidence as they craft a formal argumentative essay. In addition, the resource features effective writing strategies for the social studies classroom. To access the document, as well as free teaching units, click [here](#).

Teachers can observe Middle School Mock Trial and We the People Showcases

OCLRE invites middle school teachers to observe the *Middle School Mock Trial State Showcase* April 11 or 12 at the Thomas J. Moyer Ohio Judicial Center in Columbus and the *We the People State Showcase* on May 17 at The Ohio State University's Fawcett Center.

The Mock Trial program blends classic pieces of literature commonly read at the middle school level with learning about the law and the judicial system. Observing teachers will see the students in action and leave with a better understanding of how to implement the program in the classroom. This year's trial is based on the novel *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry* by Mildred Taylor, a book specifically listed in the Common Core standards as one that illustrates the complexity, quality and range of student reading for grades 6-8.

We the People is an interactive program that engages students in the study of the history, philosophies and evolution of the U.S. Constitution, Bill of Rights and Declaration of Independence. The culminating activity – simulated Congressional hearings – engages students in an authentic assessment as they demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the history and evolution of the documents, as well as current-day relevance. To attend the showcases or learn more about the programs, contact Tim Kalgreen at tkalgreen@oclr.org or (614) 485-3515.

Law and Leadership Institute: establishing pathways to the law and developing leaders along the way

The [Law and Leadership Institute](#) (LLI) is a state-wide initiative in collaboration with the legal community that inspires and prepares students from underserved communities for post-secondary and professional success through a comprehensive four-year academic program in law, leadership, analytical thinking, problem solving, writing skills and professionalism. LLI provides programming that introduces high school students from underserved communities to the wide array of legal careers and prepares those students to achieve the scholastic success needed to ultimately obtain a law degree. Students attend weekday classes during the five week LLI Summer Institute and on Saturdays during the school year at each of the eight Ohio law schools located in urban areas, namely in the cities of Akron, Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati, Dayton and Toledo.

Students are nominated or apply to the program during the second semester of their eighth grade year. Applications are reviewed in the spring and students are accepted for the Summer Institute as rising freshmen. Applications and nomination forms are currently available. To find out more about LLI and how to nominate a student, click [here](#) or call (614) 485-3503.

Webinar expands on six proven practices for effective civic learning

The National Center for Learning and Citizenship (NCLC) recently conducted a webinar that detailed six proven practices of successful civic learning. The webinar, geared toward an audience of educators, administrators, students and parents in Washington offered real-world examples of the concepts first outlined in the Campaign for the Civic Mission of Schools' "[Guardian of Democracy](#)."

Read a [short blog](#) about the webinar on NCLC's Every Student a Citizen website, or listen to the [full webinar](#) at no cost. For additional information, contact Lisa Guilfoile (lguilfoile@ecs.org) or Molly Ryan (mryan@ecs.org).

Nominate students for the Civics & Law Honor Roll

OCLRE is excited to announce an opportunity to recognize your students. The [Civics & Law Honor Roll](#), sponsored by the American Bar Association Commission on Civic Education in the Nation's Schools, recognizes students in grades 9-12 who have demonstrated a commitment to civic learning and engagement. To learn more about the criteria and submit nominations, click [here](#). **Nominations are due April 12** and honorees will be announced on Law Day, May 1.

Call for OCLRE fall conference presentation proposals

OCLRE is seeking presenters with exciting lessons, projects and activities centered on the conference themes for the 23rd annual *Law & Citizenship Conference*, Sept. 22-23 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Dublin, Ohio.

Conference themes include:

- Integrating the Common Core into the social studies classroom;
- Teaching historic documents, including the Ohio Constitution;
- Teaching current and contemporary issues;
- How to teach controversial issues; and
- Helping students research effectively using technology.

To learn more about the presentation topics being solicited and to submit a proposal, click [here](#). **Proposals are due by April 5**. Presenters will be notified of acceptance by late April. Conference presenters will receive complimentary conference registration for their presentation day. Questions can be directed to Tim Kalgreen at tkalgreen@oclr.org or (614) 485-3515.

Call for participation: Congress in the Classroom 2013

Congress in the Classroom® is a national, award-winning summer workshop developed and sponsored by The Dirksen Congressional Center and dedicated to the exchange of ideas and information on teaching about Congress. Designed for high school or middle school teachers who teach U.S. history,

government, civics, political science or social studies, the program accepts 35 teachers annually. To learn more about the sessions and registering for the Congress in the Classroom 2013 workshop, and to complete an online registration form, visit: http://www.dirksencenter.org/programs_CiApplication.htm. **Applications will be accepted through April 15.** Selections are expected to be made by April 30.

Time is running out! Youth for Justice registration

The *Youth for Justice (YFJ) Summit* is May 7, and the deadline for the Youth for Justice Grant supporting the YFJ projects is **April 19**. Start planning your project and submit your application for the grant today. Learn more: <http://www.oclre.org/youthforjustice/summit/>

An interactive method to teach the Founding Documents

On **May 17**, the Ohio Center for Law-Related Education (OCLRE) will host its Middle School *We the People* State Showcase at the Fawcett Center on the campus of The Ohio State University. Interested teachers are invited to be the guests of OCLRE to observe the showcase and learn more about *We the People*. *We the People* is interactive and engages students in the study of the history, philosophies, and evolution of the U.S. Constitution, Bill of Rights, and Declaration of Independence. The culminating activity—simulated Congressional hearings—engages students in an authentic assessment as they demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the history and evolution of the documents, as well as current-day relevance. Those interested in observing the showcase or who wish to learn more may contact Tim Kalgreen: tkalgreen@oclre.org or 614-485-3515.

OCSS award nominations now open

OCSS is accepting nominations of worthy social studies teachers in the following categories: *Emerging Social Studies Leader*, *Outstanding Social Studies Teacher* (two awards total), *Social Studies Leader*, and the *Dr. James J. Sheehan Pre-Service Social Studies Teacher Award*. Click [here](#) to fill out the online nomination form by **May 3**. Email Mona Al-Hayani at monaal1@bex.net for more information.

Free Ohio educator summer workshop: Echoes & Reflections on the Holocaust

The Ohio Council on Holocaust Education is hosting a free training workshop on Holocaust curriculum for middle and high school students. The day-long workshop is on June 10 at Youngstown State University and facilitated by Sarah Weiss, executive director of The Center for Holocaust and Humanity Education. The workshop includes a copy of the *Echoes and Reflections Holocaust* curriculum and training on how to use it as well as access to lesson plans, primary sources, handouts, pictures, video testimonies and other supplementary material. Space is limited and the **registration deadline is June 2**. To register, please contact Sarah Weiss at 513-487-3055 or sweiss@holocaustandhumanity.org.

2013 summer program offered by the Northeast NRC on Canada

The Teaching Canada Summer Institute for K-12 Professionals will be held June 23-28. The program, sponsored by the National Resource Center on Canada, will focus on the historical, geographic and cultural aspects of Québec. The week-long program begins and ends in Montréal with travel to Québec City. Additional details, including the downloadable registration form, can be found [here](#). For further information, contact Betsy Arntzen at barntzen@umit.maine.edu.

Global professional development opportunities for this summer

This summer, educators can earn graduate school credit and professional development credit while seeing the world. The Global Exploration for Educators Organization (GEEO) is offering 25 different international professional development opportunities in 2013.

The trips range from eight to 24 days in length and are designed to be interesting and affordable for teachers. Teachers receive educational materials designed to bring their experiences back to the classroom. The trips are open to K-12 and university educators and administrators, and a non-educator guest.

Detailed information about each trip, including itineraries, costs, travel dates and more can be found [here](#). The registration deadline is June 1, but space is limited and many programs will be full well before the deadline.

Facing History and Ourselves offers two summer seminars

Facing History and Ourselves, a non-profit educational development organization will offer two introspective seminars on race relations in Ohio this summer.

Race & Membership in American History: The Eugenics Movement explores the ways in which beliefs about race have shaped and challenged America's identity. The seminar is scheduled for June 24-28 at a Cleveland area location yet to be determined. Register [here](#).

Holocaust & Human Behavior examines how history is shaped by hatred, indifference and denial, as well as by caring, compassion and responsibility. This seminar investigates the complexities of human behavior, judgment, memory and how individuals can make a difference in the world today. The seminar is Aug. 5-9 at John Carroll University. Register [here](#).

Exploring Brazil: a window into the language and culture of a country on the rise

The University of Georgia, Tulane University and Vanderbilt University are collaborating to offer a Summer Institute on Brazilian culture and the Portuguese language this summer. K-12 educators of any discipline and can apply to attend this four-day institute at the University of Georgia.

Sessions will include Portuguese language instruction and participants will explore the culture, history and geography of Brazil. Film screenings and other presentations will be incorporated into the institute to highlight contemporary and engaging cultural content for the K-12 classroom. Educators will work in teams to develop interdisciplinary units that address applicable state learning standards, which they will bring back to their schools to teach and share with colleagues. Educators may receive a certificate of completion for 40 hours of professional development. Participants in this institute will have priority to take their experience exploring language and culture of Brazil further by travelling to Brazil in the summer of 2014 on a specialized curriculum development institute developed by Tulane and Vanderbilt Universities. For more information, contact Denise Woltering at (504).862.3143 or dwolteri@tulane.edu.

Social studies web resources

Below are some resources with primary sources for the new grade 5 Western Hemisphere and grade 6 Eastern Hemisphere. Let us know what you think.

Map Collections

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/gmdhtml/gmdhome.html>

Grade 5

Creating and Analyzing Time Lines – Grade Five

https://ims.ode.state.oh.us/ODE/IMS/Lessons/Web_Content/CSS_LP_S01_BA_L05_I01_02.pdf

PBS: Lost King of the Maya

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/maya/>

Ancient Maya: Knowledge Through Art

http://www.pbs.org/newshour/extra/teachers/lessonplans/art/maya_6-07.html

Couriers of the Inca Empire: Getting Your Message Across

<http://edsitement.neh.gov/lesson-plan/couriers-inca-empire-getting-your-message-across>

Inca and Aztec Institutions Compared

http://faculty.smu.edu/rKemper/cf_3333/cf_3333_fall_2005_covey_Inca_Aztec.htm

The Aztecs – Mighty Warriors of Mexico

<http://edsitement.neh.gov/lesson-plan/aztecs-m-dash-mighty-warriors-mexico>

Aztec Find a Home: The Eagle Has Landed

<http://edsitement.neh.gov/lesson-plan/aztecs-find-home-eagle-has-landed>

Exploring Cultural Practices and Products – Grade Five

This model lesson from ODE's Instructional Management System can be adapted to Content Statement 8.
https://ims.ode.state.oh.us/ODE/IMS/Lessons/Web_Content/CSS_LP_S02_BA_L05_I01_01.pdf

Defining Regions – Grade Five

This model lesson from ODE's Instructional Management System can be adapted to Content Statement 6.
https://ims.ode.state.oh.us/ODE/IMS/Lessons/Web_Content/CSS_LP_S03_BB_L05_I05_01.pdfConnections

Grade 6

Ancient China for Kids

<http://china.mrdonn.org/>

Ancient India Government

<http://www.culturalindia.net/indian-history/ancient-india/ancient-government.html>

Ancient India

<http://www.culturalindia.net/indian-history/ancient-india/index.html>

Ancient Egypt: Site Map

<http://www.dia.org/education/egypt-teachers/sitemap.htm>

Egypt's Golden Empire

<http://www.pbs.org/empires/egypt/educators/index.html>

Cuneiform Writing System in Ancient Mesopotamia: Emergence and Evolution

<http://edsitement.neh.gov/lesson-plan/cuneiform-writing-system-ancient-mesopotamia-emergence-and-evolution>

Ancient Egypt: The British Museum

<http://www.ancientegypt.co.uk/menu.html>

Repositories of Primary Sources

<http://www.uiweb.uidaho.edu/special-collections/Other.Repositories.html>

Send comments/questions to:

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