



Updates from the Ohio Department of Education

Social Studies Website and Resources

Welcome back social studies teachers! All Ohio Department of Education social studies resources, including Ohio's Learning Standards for Social Studies and Model Curriculum are available on the [Department's social studies webpage](#).

The Department continues to review and post draft versions of the instructional strategies and supports that were completed by Ohio educators prior to the start of the pandemic. The documents currently available from INFOhio are:

- [American Government Instructional Strategies and Supports](#);
- [American History Instructional Strategies and Supports](#);
- [Modern World History Instructional Strategies and Supports](#);
- [Grade 8 Instructional Strategies and Supports](#).
- [Grade 7 Instructional Strategies and Supports](#).

Social Studies Virtual Meetup and Office Hours

The Ohio Department of Education is excited to announce monthly Social Studies Virtual Meetups will begin Sept. 20 at 3:45-4:45 p.m. The first session, entitled *Making Thinking Visible*, will be in partnership with [Illinois Civics](#).

The session description is below:

Do you want resources to help you know what students are thinking? Experience an inquiry utilizing metacognitive strategies from [Harvard University's Project Zero Visible Thinking Toolkit](#) that can be used for both formative and summative assessment. Walk away with free, ready-to-use critical thinking protocols aligned to the [Educating for American Democracy Pedagogy Companion](#). Session is appropriate for all grade levels. Participants can join the session via Microsoft Teams: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

The Department also will begin to offer monthly Social Studies Office Hours on Sept. 9 at 2:30-4 p.m. Office hours are an informal time for social studies educators across the state to connect with the Department's social studies consultants to ask any questions or receive social studies support. Educators can join the office hours via Microsoft Teams. [Click here to join office hours](#).

United States Senate Youth Program

The United States Senate Youth Program is a unique educational experience for outstanding high school seniors interested in pursuing careers in public service. The annual program is held in Washington, D.C. each March, where two student leaders from each state spend a week experiencing the national government in action. Students can learn more about eligibility and access Ohio's application by visiting [Ohio's United States Senate Youth Program](#) page.

Ohio students interested in applying to the program need to fill out the student application and have a letter of recommendation submitted by **Oct. 18, 2021**.

Remember Requirement to Observe Constitution Day on Sept. 17

Each year on Sept. 17, schools nationwide take part in observing the day in 1787 the U.S. Constitution was signed. Educational institutions receiving federal funding must plan an education program commemorating Constitution Day. Below are organizations with links to resources for Constitution Day:

- [National Constitution Center](#);



- [National Council for the Social Studies;](#)
- [National Archives;](#)
- [United States Department of Education;](#)
- [United States Citizenship and Immigration Services;](#)
- [Center for Civic Education;](#)
- [EDSITEment!.](#)

News from Other Organizations

2021 Ohio Council for the Social Studies Annual Conference

Registration now is open for the 2021 Ohio Council for the Social Studies Annual Conference scheduled for Oct. 16, 2021, at Capital University in Bexley, Ohio. Participants have the opportunity to attend both live and recorded sessions. Information about registration is available on the [Ohio Council for the Social Studies website](#). Please direct any questions about the conference to the Ohio Council for the Social Studies.

2021 National Council for the Social Studies Annual Conference

Registration will open the week of Sept. 7 for the 2021 National Council for the Social Studies Annual Conference scheduled for Nov. 15-21, 2021. The conference will be a fully virtual event. This year's conference marks the 101st annual conference. Information about [registration is available on the National Council for the Social Studies website](#). Please direct any questions about the conference to the National Council for the Social Studies.

Johns Hopkins Social Studies Knowledge Mapping

This summer, the Johns Hopkins Institute for Education Policy released its first Social Studies Knowledge Map findings. This tool helps educators evaluate social studies materials to determine if they are high-quality. The initial reports analyzed five curricula of varying scope and length, from multi-year, multi-course offerings to one unit's worth of materials. Along with the release of these reports, Johns Hopkins also released a [findings brief](#). The initial five curriculum reports for the [Knowledge Map for Social Studies can be found on the Johns Hopkins website](#).

Professional Learning Opportunities

National Council for Social Studies and inquirED Webinar Series: The Future of Social Studies

The National Council for Social Studies and inquirED are providing a free webinar series this fall entitled "The Future of Social Studies." The five-part series, targeted for social studies leaders and teachers, will explore inquiry-based learning, culturally responsive education, media literacy and English language arts integration. Registration information is available on the [inquirED website](#).

Facing History and Ourselves Workshop

Facing History and Ourselves is offering a virtual workshop, [U.S. History: A New Approach to Teaching the Reconstruction Era](#), for curriculum specialists and teachers of grades 7-12 U.S. history, humanities and English language arts.

Participants will examine the Reconstruction era and learn to teach about this significant period in U.S. history using an approach that helps students connect the lessons to their own lives and the choices they make.

The workshop will take place Oct. 19-20, and graduate credit is available. Please contact Facing History and Ourselves for more information.

Social Studies Resources

INFOhio Digital Social Studies Resources

Ohio educators can access premium digital resources for free on [INFOhio](#). INFOhio licenses high-quality, digital, teaching and learning content that all Ohio students in prekindergarten through grade 12, their parents



and their teachers can use at school, at home and on the go. The following digital resources are available through the [INFOhio](#) website:

- World Book resources, including [World Book Early Learning](#), [World Book Kids](#), [World Book Student](#) and [World Book Advanced](#);
- [Oxford Research Encyclopedias](#) and [Very Short Introductions](#);
- EBSCO databases, including [Literary Reference Center](#), [Points of View Reference Center](#) and [Science Reference Center](#);
- [EBSCO High School Collection eBooks](#) and [EBSCO Education Collection eBooks](#).

Happy 175th Birthday to the Smithsonian Institute

In August, the [Smithsonian Institute](#) celebrated the 175th anniversary of its founding in 1846. The Smithsonian Institute is the world's largest museum, education and research complex. The Smithsonian Institute and its museums offer many free educational resources for social studies educators, including the following pages:

- [National Museum of African American History and Culture](#);
- [National Museum of African Art](#);
- [National Air and Space Museum](#);
- [Smithsonian American Art Museum](#);
- [National Museum of American History](#);
- [National Museum of the American Indian](#);
- [National Museum of Asian Art](#);
- [National Museum of Natural History](#);
- [National Portrait Gallery](#);
- [National Postal Museum](#).

Other Resources and Information

The News Literacy Project: Six Best Practices for Talking to Friends and Family About Sharing Falsehoods Online

[The News Literacy Project](#) released an [infographic](#) with six tips for productive conversations with friends and family about misinformation online.

Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History Digital Volunteer Transcription Project

The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History is seeking student volunteers for its Digital Volunteer Transcription Project. Volunteers type transcripts for primary sources from key historical periods. Currently, transcription projects are available for the following topics:

- Alaska Gold Rush Experiences;
- Black Lives in the Founding Era;
- Civil War Letters;
- Cyrena Hammond's Diary;
- Sylvia Weiner's Letters from the World War II Brooklyn Home Front.

Volunteers must be at least 13 years old. Learn more about how students can begin transcribing on the [Gilder Lehrman website](#).

The resources in this newsletter are free and have been reviewed using the Department's Social Studies resource filter against established criteria. Copies of the completed filter forms are available upon request. Inclusion in this newsletter does not represent a recommendation to use a resource. Many quality resources are available beyond those included here. Educators should use their professional expertise to determine the suitability of any particular resources for use in their districts, schools or classrooms.



Send comments/questions to:

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