

# Social Studies PLC eBlast

July 2022

Volume II, Number 7

Hello Everyone!

## **PBS LearningMedia**

[Click here](#) to explore the past and learn about the present with resources on government, history, economics, and more.

## **Allsides**

[AllSides](#) is a U.S. company that analyzes news as either being centrist or leaning left or right. They present articles from different perspectives allowing readers to see views from publications outside of their normal bubble

## **National History Day updates**

Hundreds of students from all over PA attended the National History Day in Pennsylvania State Contest at the University of Scranton on May 7 and 8. Hundreds more participated virtually. 63 students qualified for the National Contest, and judging for that is now underway. Please join us in wishing them well. In addition to the winners, NHD in PA awards several special prizes: the Pennsylvania LGBTQ+ History Prize, the Irwin Marcus Prize for the best paper on Pennsylvania history, and the Mayflower Prize for the best projects representing the ideals and values of the Mayflower passengers.

You can view the list of winners online here:

[2022 State Contest Results](#)

[2022 Special Awards](#)

## **Congressional Medal of Honor Society**

Chartered by Congress in 1958, the Congressional Medal of Honor Society's (CMOH) membership is comprised of those who wear the Medal of Honor, our nation's highest military award for valor. As individuals who have gone above and beyond the call of duty, the Medal of Honor Recipients are committed to serving our country in peace as they did in war by championing the values of courage, sacrifice, integrity, commitment, patriotism, and citizenship. That mission has become increasingly important as the number of living Medal of Honor Recipients continues to decrease. The nonprofit Society preserves their stories and shares their values through Outreach and Education initiatives. By serving, remembering, supporting, and honoring the sacrifice of the Recipients, by sharing the stories and values inherent in them, we understand the responsibility and potential within each one of us to impact the world. Take a look at their resources, lesson plans, and curriculums, as well as other initiatives [here](#). SAS also has a CMOH Content Collection available under [Material and Resources](#) that details lesson plans and links them to PA standards.

## **From the National Constitution Center**

**Richard Albert** of the University of Texas at Austin, **Nicholas Cole** of the University of Oxford, and **Alison Lacroix** of the University of Chicago Law School compare the legal systems of the United States and the United Kingdom, including the relationship between the origins of the U.S. Constitution and British law, how courts in both countries decide major issues, and how each constitution gets amended. **Lana Ulrich**, senior director of content at the National Constitution, moderates.

[Click here to watch the video.](#)

The Associated Press

## **Troutwood Financial Planning App**

Founded out of Carnegie Mellon University's Swartz Center for Entrepreneurship, Troutwood is a financial technology company that designs and develops financial applications and educational tools built around a philosophy of Save First Planning. [Learn more here.](#) They also have a free app in the Google Play store as well as the Apple Store. Download and try it!

## **Marginal Revolution University (MRU)**

[MRU](#) provides lesson plans, videos, interactive practice, and other economics curriculum. Founded by economics professors Tyler Cowen and Alex Tabarrok, MRU supports teachers with engaging materials based on insights from cognitive science to help students retain information and apply it in new situations. They have over [1,000 videos](#) that have been viewed over 40 million times, as well as a library of free lesson plans and student activities. For example, see their [high school unit on supply, demand, and equilibrium.](#)

## **Presidential Primary Sources Project Professional Development Opportunity**

The Presidential Primary Sources Project is partnering with the Truman Presidential Library to host a **free virtual teacher professional development workshop** this summer. Presidential Character and Decision Making is a three-day online workshop from July 12-14, 2022, focused on presenting teachers with tools and primary sources to help them navigate historical themes in their curriculum. [Register here.](#)

## **Professional Development Opportunities from the National Archives & National Park Service:**

- July 19, 21, 26, & 28: [We Rule: Civics for All of US Teacher Professional Development Workshops](#)
- August 2–4: [Three Branches Institute](#)
- [The National Park Service Teacher Ranger Teacher \(TRT\) program](#)

## **The OER Conference for Social Studies**

OER has announced keynote speakers for the third annual **OER Conference for Social Studies (OC for SS)**, taking place virtually **August 3–4, 2022**. Reignite your passion for history and explore ways to improve your

teaching practice with four of the country's foremost thinkers on civic responsibility, history, and education. Registration for this free, online event is open now! [Click here](#) to register and learn more.

## **Newsela**

Newsela is an instructional content tool that allows teachers to find articles with appropriate reading levels for their students. Newsela articles also feature questions and writing prompts that align with national standards. Check out their resources [here](#).

## **New Bill of Rights in Action from Constitutional Rights Foundation Available to Download Now**

Since 1967, the Constitutional Rights Foundation has published its quarterly newsletter, *Bill of Rights In Action*. The newsletter and archives provide educators with high quality lesson plans on U.S. history, world history, and government. The most recent edition provides resources for:

- World History: Yugoslavia: A Divided Land
- U.S. History: Mother Jones: 'The Most Dangerous Woman in America'
- Civics on Call: What Is Seditious Conspiracy?
- Articles are reproducible for the classroom and feature:
  - Writing and Discussion Questions
  - Small-Group Activities
  - National, California, and Common Core State Standards Addressed
  - Complete Sources Listed

[Visit the CRF website to review current and past issues and subscribe.](#)

## **My Voice is Louder Than Hate**

My Voice is Louder Than Hate is a multimedia lesson resource designed to empower students in grades 9-12 to push back against hate and prejudice in their online communities. Over the course of this program, students will: learn how to push back when they encounter hate or prejudice online; develop digital and media literacy skills to recognize and confront hate material online; and prepare to take action as digital citizens by taking an active role in forming the norms and values of their offline communities and using digital and media tools for civic action online and offline.

This program consists of four elements: an online multimedia platform that includes learning resources, practice scenarios, and tools for media-making; two lessons that use the different features of the multimedia platform to educate and empower students to respond to hate and prejudice online; a training workshop to prepare teachers to deliver these lessons; and a teacher's guide, which provides teachers with background information and resources to use in implementing the program.

[Visit their website](#) to find out more information.

## **Harvard Case Method Institute**

The Case Method Institute for Education and Democracy is seeking teachers to join in its efforts to advance U.S. History, government, and civics instruction in high schools while deepening students' interest in, and engagement with, democracy in America. The Institute offers training in the case method, the core pedagogical approach at many business and other professional schools, as well as access to the complete "History of American Democracy" curriculum originally developed for students at Harvard College and Harvard Business School. In comments echoing the feedback of teachers and students nationwide, an undergraduate described this new approach to U.S. history in its inaugural year as "the civics course everyone should take." U.S. History, government, and civics teachers with students in grades 9-12 are invited to participate in the next professional development workshop to be held on July 15, 2022. Everything—including the workshop, curriculum, and supporting resources—is provided entirely free of charge. The opportunity includes:

- -An afternoon of Zoom-based training with Professor David Moss of Harvard Business School on July 15, including an interactive case discussion.
- Complete access to more than 20 cases exploring key decision-points in the history of American democracy ranging from the Constitutional Convention to the Civil Rights Movement.
- An asynchronous virtual training program, completed before the Zoom-based session with Professor Moss, where participants will become familiar with case method teaching.
- Ongoing support and continued collaboration with Institute staff, prioritizing a two-way exchange of ideas around best practices for teaching by the case method in high schools.

[Learn more here.](#)

## **Educating for American Democracy (EAD) Roadmap**

The EAD Roadmap team has posted a series of recorded workshops on the EAD Roadmap and related topics. Videos, a list of upcoming events, and other resources to support educators are [posted here](#).

## **Facing History and Ourselves**

Facing History and Ourselves offers a series of online and on-demand webinars. Their general educator resources are available [here](#). More information on their summer professional development opportunities, including links to register for the below seminars, is available [here](#).

- July 12–14—Teaching Coming of Age in a Complex World
- July 18–21—Teaching Holocaust and Human Behavior
- July 25–28—U.S. History: A New Approach to Teaching the Reconstruction Era
- August 2–3—Explorations: Building Learning Communities through Social-Emotional Learning, Equity, and Civic Education

## **Gilder Lehrman Teacher Seminars**

Gilder Lehrman is offering 21 different seminars online this summer from June 20 to August 11, 2022. Teachers are welcome and encouraged to register for complimentary access to their new Special Topics in History series held this summer. Learn more by [clicking here](#).

## **Understanding the Long View of the African Diaspora**

In partnership with the Ruth J. Simmons Center for Race and Justice at Prairie View A&M University, the National Humanities Center is proud to host the first annual Teaching African American Studies Summer Institute. Open to all K–12 educators, this program will provide an immersive, hands-on learning experience to better understand the approaches and the historical perspective required to create and teach African American studies. Each day’s sessions will include readings and viewings, primary source analysis, and expert scholarship from NHC Fellows. The central theme of this year’s institute will be “Understanding the Long View of the African Diaspora.” Participants will work with scholars of African American studies to better understand the complexities of the field and the introduction of key concepts in the K–12 classroom. Participants will create classroom-ready instructional resources and publish them as Open Education Resources (OER) in the [In Class Digital Library](#). [Click here for more information](#).

Thank you for subscribing to the SAS Social Studies PLC and for all you do every day for the students in Pennsylvania!

Don McCrone

[dmccrone@pa.gov](mailto:dmccrone@pa.gov)