

History

Making a Change: The First Amendment and the Civil Rights Movement

This workshop revisits a time period and movement that educators already know well, but poses new questions: How did civil rights activists use the First Amendment to achieve their goals? How did Martin Luther King Jr. harness the power of the news media? Participants view a Newseum-made documentary based on primary sources that invites them to look at the civil rights movement from a different angle, and then tackle an activity that bridges the gap between social movements then and now. Teachers also receive resources and strategies to bring their new knowledge back to their students.

Women, Their Rights and Nothing Less: The First Amendment and the Women's Suffrage Movement

How did the women's suffrage movement redefine the roles and rights of women – and in turn, shift the way Americans today use the First Amendment to effect change? This workshop examines how women used the five freedoms to challenge gender roles and forge new societal norms. Attendees investigate movement participants' pioneering use of the freedom of press, assembly and petition to understand how our society has changed over time. Get tips on how to spark connections to the issues and causes that students care about today.

"I can honestly say I've never attended a continuing education program that succeeds in this manner, like the Newseum does. You truly are giving us very practical, realistic tools to take home to our students and classroom. Thank you!"

*~Annette Spahr,
teacher workshop participant*

The Press, the Presidency and the Battle for Public Opinion

What tools do presidents use to shape their image? How does the press respond? In this session, educators explore how the media and presidents create a presidential "image." Through case studies from the 20th century and today, see how both sides have used tools from staging to social media to control their message and shape public opinion. Participants gain topical teaching strategies and resources. (Coming in late August)

The Cold War: The Media and the Message

Remember air raid drills and fears of nuclear annihilation? This workshop covers the overwhelming hostility and tensions between the United States and Soviet Union during the early years of the Cold War, and the challenges it placed on journalists to be fair, accurate and clear. Learn how television was just coming of age, and how the U.S. government exploited the newness of the medium to control the message in the battle against communism. Participants will explore persuasion techniques, and gain resources and strategies to bring their knowledge back to their students.

Photographic Revolution: The Ethics and Impact of Seeing the Story

From the horror of the battlefield to the squalor of 19th century New York City, a new witness saw all: the camera. Focusing on the examples of Civil War battlefield photography and Jacob Riis's investigation into New York tenement conditions, this workshop introduces participants to the logistical and ethical implications created by new technologies. Educators learn about the guiding principles of journalism, the early history of photography and the origins of modern war reporting and investigative reporting. Through real-life case studies, participants connect historical topics to contemporary issues. They also learn about strategies and resources for teaching with historical newspapers and photographs in their classrooms.

Reporting the Civil War

The Civil War marked the birth of modern American war reporting, forever changing the nation's expectations for wartime news. This workshop explores the technological advances — and corresponding challenges — that shaped the era's reporting. Discover how the lightning speed of the telegraph revolutionized newspaper coverage of battlefield action and magnified tensions between the press and the military. Learn about the tedious techniques battlefield photographers had to master to capture now-iconic images, and draw connections to modern-day issues as you debate the ethical implications of racing to print the latest scoop on troop positions. The workshop includes a discussion of resources and strategies for bringing this material into the classroom. Attendees will receive a battlefield map poster to use with their students.

Revolutionary Freedoms: The Free Press & the Founding of Our Nation

You think today's media is partisan and mean-spirited? This workshop travels back to the days before the First Amendment became law to explore the role — and rancor — of the colonial press leading up to, during and immediately following the Revolutionary War. Participants look at early American history from a new angle, examining early conceptions of freedom of press and historic newspapers from the revolutionary era. Participants will leave with strategies and resources for incorporating historic newspapers and the First Amendment into their classroom lessons.

Media Literacy

Judging Fact, Fiction and Everything in Between: Teaching Media Literacy

Is Wikipedia reliable? How do you distinguish fact from rumor? What news source is trustworthy? From social media posts to "citizen journalist" reports to traditional news media, today's students face questions about the origins, reliability and attribution of information everywhere they turn. As digital natives, they have a unique perspective on these issues, but they still need guidance to ask the right questions and find the answers. This workshop introduces teachers to tools they can share with their students to deconstruct the information they encounter online, in print, on social media or on TV. Participants will learn about specific strategies and resources they can bring to their classroom to foster increased media literacy across subject matters.

Media Ethics

The press may be free, but is it a free-for-all? Is it OK to clean up a quote or digitally manipulate a photograph? This workshop teaches educators the key principles of ethical journalism. Using real-life case studies, participants debate how to apply these rules, experiencing the decision-making process that goes on behind-the-scenes in journalism. They receive tools and strategies that will allow them to take these topics back to their students, helping them become more informed media consumers.

RECENT CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Beyond the Meme: Navigating Today's Free Press

With the 24/7 access to news from front pages to Facebook, how do you help students go beyond the meme to analyzing the content? What guides journalists when they cover news? Using the Newseum's Today's Front Pages, participants discuss the role of media in society and analyze how geography, newsworthiness and readership influence story selection. Teachers gain strategies for supporting students' critical thinking and understanding of community needs and values.

Developing Student Voice: Digital Tools for Championing a Cause

How can students use social media to advocate for change? Using the women's suffrage movement as a case study, participants identify persuasion techniques and effective use of First Amendment freedoms. Together they do a primary source analysis of 19th century artifacts with a focus on visual literacy skills, and learn how students can apply these skills to build visibility and momentum for their cause with 21st century tools. Participants will create a mini social campaign using popular social media platforms.

History Through H@ndles: New Tools for Expanding Media Literacy

Use social media to make history relevant to your students and to teach primary source analysis. In a hands-on activity, participants will examine sources from another era and share the information via social media, seeing how bias can affect the message, public opinion and policy. Then explore the vast media literacy resources on NewseumED, a free online repository with archival materials, primary sources, standards-aligned lesson plans and more.



The First Amendment: From Tinker to the Digital Age

How does the Tinker standard apply today? What First Amendment freedoms and limits apply to student behavior both in and outside of school. After a review of the landmark Supreme Court case *Tinker v. Des Moines* (1969), participants use real-life case studies to debate how public schools should balance students' rights to free expression with the need to provide a safe learning environment. Special attention is given to the impact of technology on today's "schoolhouse gate."

Freedom in the Balance: First Amendment Conflict and Compromise

Learn to position 9/11 as a starting point to teach civic engagement, and explore case studies of moments throughout American history when freedom, security and discrimination have come into conflict. This session allows teachers to prepare for the 15th anniversary of 9/11, not as an isolated event covered in a single textbook chapter or class period, but a frame through which connections can be made to other subjects by connecting and comparing this tragic event with other key moments in American history. Using inquiry-based teaching strategies, including promoting different opinions and adapting evidence to build a viewpoint, participants examine how Americans determine how far our First Amendment freedoms may go during times of crisis.

From Theory to Action: Using C3 to Teach Civil Rights

Explore ways to reframe the civil rights movement using the C3 Framework and the Newseum's emphasis on the First Amendment. Gain strategies to help students move beyond the checklist of civil rights facts and figures toward a deeper understanding of the connections to the First Amendment and the origins, milestones, the lasting legacy of the civil rights movement.

Social Leadership: How to Turn Your Students into Activists

How do you prepare students to go beyond critical thinking and discussion, and to take action to better their communities and the world? What can 19th-century suffragists teach us about 21st-century campaigning and the power of the First Amendment? Get a close-up look at historical social movements. We'll discuss responsible advocating and effective persuasive tools, using the women's suffrage movement as a case study. Explore suffrage artifacts available on newseumED.org.

Strategic and Thoughtful Blended, Cross-Curricular Learning

Engage students with technology in authentic ways while connecting social studies and ELA skills their everyday, digitally focused lives. We'll demonstrate how we partnered with Orange County DOE in a virtual learning project with that gave students media literacy skills and practical tools for evaluating online sources. This virtual learning experience created an opportunity for English language arts and social studies classes to work together to support CCSS goals of reading and analyzing informational text from multiple print and digital sources. This workshop introduces the project process to social studies department chairs and shows how they can develop their teachers' capacity for integrating technology into the cross-curricular partnerships. Participants will learn how creating a meaningful opportunity for students to learn and use practical tools for evaluating primary and secondary sources and apply them immediately online will allow them to see how ELA and historical thinking skills apply to their everyday lives and give purpose to their learning.

The "Third Rail": Teaching Controversial Content

How can you present First Amendment flashpoints – ranging from hate speech to religious discrimination – in a way that ignites positive discourse in a comfortable classroom environment? Our case-study approach provides a safe entry point for students to safely, respectfully and productively debate provocative and polarizing issues in the news and on their minds. Leave with tips and multiple ready-to-use case studies.

Transform Primary Sources Activities to Online Conversations

Engage students with your content by creating conversation where they are: on social media. Transform your primary source assignments into meaningful interactive engagement with students through platforms such as Pinterest and Twitter. We'll begin with a large group discussion focusing on the definition and benefits of an authentic online learning experience, with attention to student engagement and developing media literacy skills. Then, participate in an interactive social media activity modeling how you can apply the strategies in your classroom.