

New Renaissance In Education

SUGGESTED CURRICULUM TOPIC AREAS

(You may use or submit Lesson Plans for any of these Curriculum Topics.

You can also proposed new Curriculum Topics)

NOTE TO USERS AND CONTRIBUTORS:

The following are just some of the possible Curriculum Topics & Subject Areas that can be developed or proposed by YOU, the educators that contribute to NRIE. They are the suggestions of NRIE's Founder and staff. It doesn't mean they are the only or the best curriculum topics or ideas. NRIE encourages participating educators to add to and improve on these topics, while developing creative and inspiring lesson plans to go with them. Feel free to print these pages.

Thank you for your contributions!

Curriculum Area:

AMERICA'S GREAT DOCUMENTS – PART 1 (UP TO NATION'S FOUNDING)

I. PRE-COLONIAL DOCUMENTS

Magna Carta

English Declaration of Rights

II. COLONIAL LETTERS, PAMPHLETS & DOCUMENTS

A. Colonial Governing Documents

First Virginia Charter (and subsequent charters), Instructions for the Virginia Colony (1606)

Mayflower Compact

Constitution of the Virginia Company. . . for a Council of State and general Assembly (1620)

New England Articles of Confederation (1643)

The Maryland Tolerance Act (1649)

Connecticut Constitution (1638) – America's first Constitution

Other colonial Constitutions (Virginia, New Jersey, others)

North Carolina Biennial Act, Governor Johnston's Request for Repeal, Disposition of. . . (1737)

Albany Plan of Union (1754)

Constitution of Massachusetts (America's longest running Constitution)

B. Colonial letters & Pamphlets

Petition of Right (1628)

Bacon's Declaration, Gov. Wm Berkeley on Bacon's rebellion (1676)

First Thanksgiving Proclamation

Edward Randolph grievances vs. Massachusetts Bay Company (forerunner of Declar. of Independence)

John Locke, *A Letter Concerning Toleration*

Soame Jenyns, *Concerning Objections to the Taxation Considered. . .* (1765)

William Pitt's speech concerning the Stamp Act

John Dickenson: *Letters from a Farmer In Pennsylvania*
The Charlotte Town, (Mecklenburg County, NC) Resolves, 1775
Daniel Leonard Letter (1975)
John Adams, *Novanglus*
Edmund Burke, On Conciliation With American Colonies
Adam Smith, Of Colonies, The Cost of Empire (from *Wealth of Nations*)

Thomas Paine: *Common Sense, The American Crisis* (later *The Rights of Man*)
Charles Inglis, *The True Interest of America Impartially Stated*

Thomas Jefferson: Notes On Slavery, Draft of Bill For Establishment of Religious Freedom

C. First & Second Continental Congress

Declaration and Resolves, October 1774
Articles of Association
Declaration of Causes and Necessity of Taking Up Arms, July 1775

D. Articles of Confederation

III. AMERICA'S GREAT DOCUMENTS (FORMING A NEW NATION)

A. Declaration of Independence

Jefferson's draft
Final Text
Fundamental Principles Espoused
Significance of the "Creator"
Natural Law and Natural Rights
Purpose of Government
Provision for Overthrow of Existing Government
Rights
Key Influences of
Story of Jefferson's writing of the declaration
Risks to the Signers and the Price They Paid

B. Federalist Papers

Overview and Anti-Federalists
As Public Relations Campaign
Influencing Interests of Federalists and Anti-federalists
Who are Cato, Plubius, Brutus, Farmer?
Theme of
Federalist Papers No. 2-8 (States Unity)
Federalist Papers No. 12-13, 30-36 (Economy, Revenue, and Taxation)
Federalist Paper No.9 and 10 (Factions)
Federalist Papers No. 23-28 (Common Defense)
Federalist Papers No. 29 (Militia)

Federalist Papers No. 37-58 (Powers and General Workings of Government)

Federalist Papers No. 47-50 vs. Anti-federalists

Federalist Papers No. 49 (Encroachment) and No. 51, 75, 76 (Checks and Balances)

Federalist Papers No. 78, 80 (Power of Judiciary)

What do the Federalist papers say about how we want our government and society to function?

In what ways does our government/society still function this way?

In what ways does our government/society no longer function this way?

Anti-Federalist Papers & Constitutional Congress Debates

C. U.S. Constitution

General Purpose of . . .

“Domestic Tranquility” Clause

“General Welfare” Clause

“Blessings of Liberty” Meaning

Article 1, Section 8 – Enumerated Powers

Article II, Section 2 -- Advise and Consent

What does the Constitution state about how we want our government to function?

In what ways does our government still function this way?

In what ways does our government no longer function this way?

D. Bill of Rights

Arguments For and Against Inclusion

First Amendment (History, Meaning, and Significance)

Second Amendment (History, Meaning, and Significance)

Fourth Amendment

Interpretation of Bill of Rights and the Constitution

Key Cases