Encounters and Exchanges
in
U.S. History

A Teaching American History Grant for the Danvers, Lowell, North Reading, and Reading Public Schools

Year Two
U.S. Expansion and Connections to the World in Antebellum America

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Introduction

Encounters and Exchanges in U.S. History is a content-based professional development program open to teachers of American history of grades 3 – 11 in the Danvers, Lowell, North Reading and Reading public schools. In partnership with Primary Source and the University of Massachusetts Lowell Graduate School of Education, the program aims to improve the content knowledge of teachers in the key events and eras of US History.

The program content spirals around the overarching theme “Encounters and Exchanges in U.S. History” as participants study the country’s founding to the twentieth century. Activities include content-based summer institutes, school year content-based institutes and seminars, history book discussion study groups, history research and information management training workshops and institutes, an annual conference, continuation activities and a website. All activities culminate in classroom refining of the products and evaluation of classroom implementation to ensure student learning of American history content, historical thinking and research skills using primary sources.

Workshops, Year Two

Capturing History
Presented by John Wren, University of Massachusetts Lowell
NOVEMBER 1 & DECEMBER 14, 2007 –READING MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY
MEDIA CENTER

This two-day hands-on workshop will focus on using photographs with a variety of technical applications including editing, creating photo-books, and making slideshows with audio. On Day 1 participants will create their own professional photograph book for use in a classroom library or to document student projects. On Day 2 participants will focus on using historical songs to create a slideshow presentation of photographs and audio. As a result of this workshop, teachers will gain skills that can easily be transferred to students.

Teachers will be asked to come prepared with a library of digital photographs specific to a particular unit of study (specific instructions will be provided).
Workshops, Year Two

Using WebQuests in the American History Classroom
*Presented by FreshPond Education*
FEBRUARY 8 & MARCH 13, 2007 - AT THE READING MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER

This two-day hands-on institute will focus on training teachers on how to design, create, and implement WebQuests in the classroom. Designed for intermediate computer users with no or limited to basic understanding of WebQuest construction, this workshop will provide a precise instruction to a number of skills including Webpage authoring, creating hyperlinks to websites and files, and inserting images and text.

Historical Field Trips, Strategies and Standards
*Led by Dr. Patricia Fontaine, University of Massachusetts Lowell*
MARCH 10 & MAY 1, 2007 (TENTATIVE)- LEAVING FROM READING MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL

This two-day workshop will provide teachers the skills and strategies to plan and conduct standards-based field trips to local historic sites and museums. Beginning with an overview of a variety of pre-visit, post-visit, and field trip activities, teachers will receive an abundance of instructional strategies and handouts for use with students. During the latter portion of Day One, participating teachers will visit the Orchard House in Concord, home of Louisa May Alcott and family and will also visit Sleepy Hollow Cemetery, the burying ground of many influential people from Concord, Massachusetts. On Day Two participants will travel to historic Salem Maritime National Park.

Annual Exchanges and Encounters in U.S. History Conference
APRIL 18, 2007 (TENTATIVE) AT READING MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL

The annual conference will be another pathway for American history teachers to enrich their knowledge of history and the use of primary sources. Historians and museum educators will conduct lectures in their areas of expertise. Teachers will be invited to share content, work products and strategies on how to implement them in the classroom.
History Book Discussion Study Groups, Year Two

For Elementary Teachers
Led by Professor Patricia L. Fontaine from the University of Massachusetts at Lowell

LOWELL – NOVEMBER 14, DECEMBER 12, JANUARY 17, FEBRUARY 13, MARCH 12, APRIL 9, MAY 14 FROM 3:45 - 5:45 P.M. AT THE BARTLETT COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP SCHOOL

READING – NOVEMBER 5, DECEMBER 3, JANUARY 14, FEBRUARY 4, MARCH 3, APRIL 7, MAY 5, FROM 3:30 - 5:30 P.M. AT READING MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL

(Dates are tentative)

For Middle & High School Teachers (open to all)
Led by Professor Dean Bergeron from the University of Massachusetts at Lowell

NORTH READING - NOVEMBER 5, DECEMBER 3, JANUARY 7, FEBRUARY 4, MARCH 3, APRIL 7, MAY 5 FROM 3:30 - 5:30 P.M.

DANVERS - NOVEMBER 7, DECEMBER 5, JANUARY 2, FEBRUARY 6, MARCH 5, APRIL 2, MAY 7 FROM 3:30 - 5:30 P.M.

LOWELL - NOVEMBER 14, DECEMBER 12, JANUARY 9, FEBRUARY 13, MARCH 12, APRIL 9, MAY 14 FROM 2:45 - 4:45 P.M.

READING - NOVEMBER 19, DECEMBER 10, JANUARY 14, FEBRUARY 11, MARCH 10, APRIL 14, MAY 12 FROM 3:15 - 5:15 P.M.

Participating teachers in each of the four districts will meet for seven 2-hour history book discussion study groups each year to deepen their content knowledge of the designated historical periods and theme studied that year.

The study groups will provide an opportunity to read and discuss in a collegial atmosphere five biographies, memoirs, historical fiction and historical works related to the program year’s theme. Instructional strategies to incorporate the books’ content into the classroom will be provided and discussed. Participants will develop a related work product such as an in-depth review of a book, lesson plans, or a multi-media presentation. Books are provided for all participants.

Book titles may include:

Elementary:
Setting the World Ablaze, John Ferling
March, Geraldine Brooks
Little Women [abridged], Louisa May Alcott
Seaport on the World, Cobblestone Magazine
Revolutionary Mothers, Carol Berkin
African American Seamen in the Age of Sail, W. Jeffrey Bolster

Middle/High:
Enterprising Elite: The Boston Associates and the World that They Made, Robert F. Dalzell Jr.
Historians at Work: Does the Frontier Experience Make America Exceptional? Richard W. Etulian, Editor
African American Seamen in the Age of Sail, W. Jeffrey Bolster
The Approaching Fury: Voices of the Storm, 1820 - 1861, Stephen B. Oates
Mine Eyes Have Seen, Ann Rinaldi
Primary Source Summer Institutes, Year Two

Massachusetts History, 1620 - 1846 for Elementary Teachers
With presentations by leading academic historians, independent scholars and "lead teachers"
JULY 14 - 16, 2007 AT COOLIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL, READING
PDPs/2 graduate credits available

U.S. Expansion and Connections to the World in Antebellum America
With presentations by leading academic historians, independent scholars and "lead teachers"
JULY 28 - AUGUST 1, 2007 AT COOLIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL
NOVEMBER TBA, 2007
PDPs/3 graduate credits available

Primary Source, a non-profit educational organization, will provide learning opportunities and curriculum resources designed to deepen content knowledge for teachers. Participating teachers have the option to earn professional development points necessary for recertification or graduate credit. All participants are required to complete a unit lesson plan project.

The Massachusetts History Institute will include content on topics such as: Pilgrims, Puritans and their Religion, Colonial-Indian Encounters, Events Leading up to the Revolution, Shays' Rebellion, and the Second Great Awakening. Participants will take a walking tour of the Boston Freedom Trail and the African-American Heritage Trail.

The Antebellum America Institute will include topics such as: the Transatlantic Reform Tradition, Slavery and Abolitionism, the International Women’s Movement, the China Trade, the War of 1812, Trade and Industry, and the California Gold Rush. Participants will take a field trip to the Peabody Essex Museum.
