



FAIR'S AMERICAN EXPERIENCE CURRICULUM (FAEC):

This unique curriculum explores the individual and cultural experiences of all groups, both native and immigrant, and facilitates deeper reflection and understanding of our shared commitment to the principles and values our country was founded upon.

Students are encouraged to reflect on what makes them “who they are as individuals” within the context of their own values and philosophic beliefs, and to consider how their identity is shaped by their families, their culture, and by simply being human.

With this lens, students will consider the similarities and differences in the experiences of other Americans and the positive contributions each has made to our shared American story.

By exploring these differences and commonalities, and our continued, collective efforts to achieve equality for all, students will empower themselves to authentically integrate concepts of American and human identity with civics, American history, and government. Our goal is to help every student see themselves and their peers with fairness, understanding and humanity, and as vital parts of the ongoing success of the American Experience.

Out of many, we become one.

FAEC teaches a comprehensive perspective of the American Experience

- Examines America's founding ideals of liberty, justice, and equality and their significance to the history and progress of all ethnic groups in America.
- Provides an honest account of the unique challenges various groups have faced, the resources they have harnessed to meet those challenges, the positive contributions each has made to the American Experience, and our collective efforts to achieve our shared interests and goals.

FAEC promotes civic engagement to advance and strengthen appreciation of our constitutional democracy

- Empowers students to reflect on their own and others' humanity and the conditions for promoting equality and thriving so they will make constructive contributions to their communities and our country throughout their lives (FAEC Introduction).
- Promotes knowledge of key civil rights figures and organizations while also exposing students to the ideas of their critics: “How did Martin Luther King, Jr.’s approach to achieving civil rights differ from Malcolm X’s?” (FAEC Part 2, Unit 1).

- Equips students to understand historic and current obstacles that various groups experienced and how they have relied on the foundational principles and laws of the United States to empower themselves socially, economically, and politically.
- Emphasizes agency and self-efficacy and requires students to consider: “As a unique, responsible, civically engaged individual, what might you aspire to do or become in life?” (FAEC Capstone Project Part 3).

FAEC recognizes how each student’s ethnic identity is just one piece of their unique individual identity

- Asks students “to consider and write about their own personal, cultural, ethnic, and American identities, as well as their goals and potential as unique human beings within the American story” (FAEC Capstone Project, Part 3).
- Recognizes that **all** people are capable of being racist. Stereotyping and discrimination are unfortunate parts of the human experience, but can be overcome by appreciating differences and exercising constitutionally guaranteed rights that can empower us.
- Celebrates the beauty of Americans’ diverse and shared traits and values. Exploring these commonalities enables students to relate concepts of American identity and human identity to civics, American history, economics, and government.
- Encourages students to explore their common humanity and the similar challenges that Americans of all ethnicities and backgrounds have faced as part of the American Experience, and the ways in which they have often worked together to surpass these challenges.

FAEC includes lesson materials from a variety of perspectives and encourages students to consider different viewpoints.

- Highlights readings from a diversity of perspectives upon which our units and lessons are built
- Students will increase proficiency in debating alternative interpretations of historical events

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