

Title of Session: Social Studies Forum - Jamestown's Journey of Democracy

Moderator: Michael Hutchison

Guest Speaker: Daman Irby

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MichaelH: Welcome to tonight's Social Studies forum

MichaelH: we have a topic of great interest to teachers of any grade level that we'll discuss this evening...

MichaelH: Our session this evening will deal with the first permanent British settlement in the New World... but before we start on that, let's all introduce ourselves... who we are, where we are geographically, what we teach, etc.

MichaelH: who wants to start?

BJB2: I'm a communications teacher in Pennsylvania and on Tapped In helpdesk

MichaelH is a social studies teacher in southwestern Indiana, and SSF host

DominicS: Hello. I teach 9th grade Civics and 12th grade Econ/POD north of Pittsburgh PA.

DebbieM: I'm a Technology Coordinator in Indianapolis and I also teach K-8 computer aps. Glad to meet everyone.

MichaelH: BTW: Deb is the 2007 Indiana Computer Educators Technology Education Advocate award winner!

BJB2 cheers wildly

JeffC: Tapped In Helpdesk and also teaching two online classes on tech & curriculum integration to Masters students at Concordia University.

JeffC: congrats Deb!

MichaelH: Deb will be honored at our annual conference in January

DominicS: Congrats!

DebbieM: Thanks much - there's plenty of worthy people around these parts!

MichaelH: Daman, Meg, want to introduce yourselves?

DebbieM: By the way, this is my first visit to TI - be patient with me

MichaelH: don't worry Deb... you are doing great

DamanI: Sure. My name is Meg Heubeck and I am the director of instruction at the University of Virginia Center for Politics. I was a social studies teacher in both the middle school and high school for twelve years prior to arriving at UVA.

MichaelH: Cool, glad you are with us this evening, Meg.

DavidWe is a Tapped In HelpDesk volunteer and leads a math education and technology discussion. He's in New Jersey

DamanI: This is Daman Irby, director of operations at the UVA Center for Politics. We are located at Charlottesville, VA.

MichaelH has been to Charlottesville... very pretty town

DamanI: We like Charlottesville, it is a great place. Good evening everyone.

DamanI: First we will give you some background on the University of Virginia Center for Politics. The primary goal of the Center, founded in 1998 by Professor Larry J. Sabato, is to increase the level of civic engagement among Americans, especially youth. The Center's largest program, the Youth Leadership Initiative (YLI) involves public and private schools from across the country in technology-based civics education projects and resources located on the YLI website at www.youthleadership.net. Over one million students have participated since its inception as a pilot project in 1999.

DamanI: The Youth Leadership Initiative combines academic excellence with civic participation and community service to assist primary and secondary teachers in creating an engaged classroom environment where students not only learn, but also experience - first-hand - the responsibilities of living in a representative democracy. Perhaps we can take part in a future chat to further discuss YLI.

DamanI: It is due to the reputation and quality of YLI products that the Center for Politics was contracted by the Jamestown Federal 400th Commemoration Commission ("Federal Commission") to lead the creation of the official curriculum website and curriculum of the commemoration as well as assist in their marketing.

DamanI: In November 2005, "Jamestown - Journey of Democracy" (a.k.a. "Jamestown Journey"), the official curriculum website of the commemoration located at www.JamestownJourney.org was established to provide teachers and students FREE "one-stop shopping" for educational resources related to Jamestown and its legacies. Over 100 lesson plans and supporting materials are accessible on the site through

collaborations with leading educational organizations. To view these organizations click on the "Resource Contributors" link on the JamestownJourney.org "About Us" page. "Jamestown Journey" has been used by thousands of educators from across the nation and around the world. Over 1,000,000 students have learned about the historical and contemporary significance of the founding of Jamestown via the resources available on JamestownJourney.org.

DamanI: Some of you may have heard about or participated in the November 9th webcast, "Jamestown Live! Experience the Journey that Changed the World". This special event, the product of America's 400th Anniversary (www.Americas400thAnniversary.com), highlighted the resources of JamestownJourney.org and brought to life the history and legacies of Jamestown through creative programming geared to an online and satellite audience of students in grades 4-8. To learn more about Jamestown Live! and to view an archived version of the webcast visit www.JamestownJourney.org and click on the Jamestown Live link. Jamestown Live! will also be broadcast on the History Channel's Cable in the Classroom this January or February. The exact date and time are TBD.

DamanI: Through "Jamestown Journey", teachers can access the official curriculum of the commemoration which consists of a series of 12 civics lesson plans that provide connections for young people between the vital beginnings at Jamestown and their important work as participating citizens today. This curriculum includes the following lesson plans:

DamanI: Arrival at Jamestown: The Need for Leadership,

DamanI: Birth of American Democracy: Evolution of Local Government,

DamanI: Birth of American Democracy: Discourse, Debate and Compromise,

DamanI: Democracy and Pluralism: Influence on Democracy,

DamanI: Entrepreneurship and Democracy: A Case Study,

DamanI: European and Indian Views of Land Ownership,

DamanI: Europeans and Native Americans: A Tale of Two Cultures,

DamanI: First Amendment: Religious Freedom,

DamanI: Freedom's Journey from Jamestown,

DamanI: Property Rights: Private Property and the Expansion of Freedom,

DamanI: The Great Irony of 1619: The Beginnings of Slavery, and

DamanI: The Rule of Law.

DamanI: As mentioned above, the Center for Politics led the creation of the civics curriculum and the website. A Curriculum Advisory Committee consisting of Virginia Indian representatives, African American representatives, educators, and experts on Jamestown and colonial history was assembled to oversee the development of the civics lesson plans as well as the content and design of the website. The high level of quality, accuracy and inclusiveness achieved by JamestownJourney.org are the results of this vital collaboration.

DamanI: Among the many other multidisciplinary lesson plans available on JamestownJourney.org are close to 100 K-12 resources that trace the cultures that converged at Jamestown and their continuing journey, illuminate the exciting archeological work currently underway at Jamestown and Werowocomoco, explore the interaction between man and nature in the unique Chesapeake estuary, and link previous ages of discovery with contemporary exploration. The lessons provided on this website help teachers and students explore those vital legacies — connecting students with the past, encouraging and informing their civic involvement, and illuminating how the earliest experiences in America helped shape contemporary issues and institutions.

DamanI: Indefinite access to the resources on www.JamestownJourney.org is FREE with the completion of a brief registration form located on the site. However, for today's chat we have established an email address and password that you can use to log in and view the full list of resources and see how the website works. That email address is "dai6h@virginia.edu" and the password is "jj". This special email address and password will be active until 8AM EST Friday, December 15th, 2006. We encourage you to register on the site for FREE permanent access to the resources.

DamanI: Hopefully this summary has provided a basis for some questions. At this point we would like to open the floor to any you might have.

MichaelH: let's take a moment to look at the information Daman shared...

MichaelH reminds everyone that TI members will get all the information in the transcript once we finish the session and everyone logs off

MichaelH: Daman, would you like me to have the folks look at the Jamestown Journey website?

DamanI: They are certainly welcome to, it will probably be helpful. www.jamestownjourney.org is the website.

DavidWe . o O (wow - 1619...starting early)

DebbieM: I'm already logged on right now. Where's a good place to start, Daman? Wow it looks terrific.

MichaelH: thanks, Daman. click on the blue link Daman shared... BUT, come back in a second to continue the discussion

MichaelH: defers to Daman for Deb's question

DominicS: It looks really good.

DavidWe: Nice logo, too

DamanI: Enter the following email address on the Jtown Journey website, dai6h@virginia.edu and enter the password jj to view the resources tonight.

MichaelH: would there be anywhere in particular we should go once we enter the username and password, Daman?

DamanI: Yes. On the left hand side of the page there is a place to login.

MichaelH: Damon, I keep getting a message saying the username or password is invalid.

DamanI: I'm sorry, you will probably want to look at the series of civics lesson plans that are listed. This is Meg, I wrote these plans specifically for the commemoration. Does anyone teach early American history anymore?

MichaelH: got it now

DominicS: I touch on it briefly.

DavidWe smiles

DominicS: I'm not supposed to, but the students need it.

DavidWe doesn't teach any kind of history, but is interested in the topic

DebbieM: Not sure about our 5th and 8th grade teachers

MichaelH: same here, Dominic, we are supposed to focus on 20th century for 11th grade

MichaelH: Debbie, I think 8th grade focuses on exploration through Civil War

MichaelH . o O (at least in Indiana)

DominicS: That is the same in PA I believe.

DebbieM: That's correct (you would know)

DamanI: Well, as a history and government students didn't have any concept of the revolution or early colonialism. So I would try to infuse it into my government curriculum. After all, you can't understand the Constitution without learning about how our nation came to be.

MichaelH: exactly, Daman

DebbieM: This is amazing. It's very easy to navigate and find what you're looking for.

MichaelH: Daman, maybe we might want to take a topic and do a search to see if we can find some lessons to fit a particular grade level?

DamanI: That is the philosophy behind these lesson plans. We have taken some history content and worked it into the standards for government and civics in the hopes that students will see the connection between our colonial past and our present government.

DebbieM: What are the assessments like?

DamanI: That's great. You can search by grade level, look at the third filter. The drag down menu allows you to see the categories.

DebbieM: brb

DamanI: There is a great range of assessments. Speaking about the civics lesson plans there are various projects, writing assignments, exit slips. Can we open the first lesson plan, Arrival at Jamestown: The Need for Leadership and look at it?

MichaelH: sure, Daman... anyone have any question about how to find the lesson?

DominicS: Got it.

MichaelH is there

DebbieM: I'm there

MichaelH: what grade level would this be appropriate for, Daman?

DamanI: Great. You can see that there is a brief intro, a series of objectives, vocabulary, and materials list. All the materials are contained in this document. The teacher doesn't need to create anything for him/herself. In this lesson they would need to provide glue sticks and index cards. When a teacher prints out the lesson, they have the components of a full lesson plan suitable for an observation or for a sub plan.

DamanI: These lessons are designated for middle/high school. We identified a need for secondary materials on Jamestown because there were so very few outside of fourth and fifth grade.

DebbieM: Were these plans written by you, Daman - where did they come from?

MichaelH: This is a very nice lesson, Daman, and great that you were able to tie it in with some other periods of history (Civil War and Civil Rights era)

DebbieM: Yes and there appears to be a variety of instructional strategies used - not just lecture.

DamanI: This is Meg. I wrote the civics lesson plans you see on this page. Yes, we were able to tie them in to different eras of US history. Each of those lessons makes a connection to modern democracy and the role of the citizen in protecting it.

DamanI: I rarely used all lecture in my classroom. I tried to time the lessons so you are changing strategies approximately every fifteen minutes or so. Differentiation is really important to me, I know it helped to keep my students learning.

MichaelH: That's an interesting concept, Meg... and adds a lot to the relevancy of the lesson

DamanI: It is also the only way that we can get the Jamestown story into the middle/high school curriculum for the reasons that everyone mentioned earlier.

MichaelH: Meg, I wondered why you picked Lincoln's second inaugural and the "I Have A Dream" speech for this lesson?

DamanI: Just to let everyone know, there are more than just civics lesson plans on the site. There are over 100 resources available for almost all of the social studies disciplines with the exception of maybe psychology. There are also some great cross curricular activities such as some awesome lesson plans provided by NASA that deal with exploration. They compare the Jamestown experience with the experience astronauts will have going back to the moon and to mars.

DebbieM: I also saw some lessons that incorporate math as well. It's really cool.

MichaelH: really cross curricular

DamanI: Well, I saw both of those speeches as being indicative of great leadership. Both demonstrated the skills necessary to help our nation.

DamanI: I also love to have students use documents and analyze them.

DebbieM: Daman - off topic a bit... who or what is your favorite resource for differentiated instruction?

DamanI: There are so many great opportunities for team teaching

DominicS: I like the documents

DamanI: Debbie, I will have to email you the information so make sure I receive your contact information.

DebbieM: Thanks - DI is one of our school goals and I'm really working on this on all fronts.

DominicS: I will be back, crying baby, needs changed.

MichaelH: Daman, if we forget to do that during the session... I have Deb's contact information and can forward that to you

DebbieM: Well that's better than a teenager with his second speeding ticket I suppose.

DebbieM smiles

MichaelH: "been there, done that" on both counts, Debbie

DavidWe smiles

DamanI: Gotcha. I taught in a school for the arts, it was really important. I also taught in an urban high/middle school where these strategies were really successful in engaging students. I would be happy to help you if I can.

DebbieM: I'm going to Jamestown to explore ... brb

DamanI: Have fun!

DavidWe waves

MichaelH: Daman, will you be adding more resources and lessons?

DamanI: We will continue to add resources throughout the commemoration. One of the primary requirements we have is that they be FREE to educators and they also have to meet our standards.

MichaelH: And the site will be up in perpetuity?

DebbieM: Excellent criteria - free and relevant....

DamanI: It will be up until at least the end of 2007 and we are now in the process of exploring ways to keep in online in perpetuity.

MichaelH: the "Free" word would make anyone smile

DamanI: FREE is really important. Teachers spend way too much of their own money on their classrooms.

DamanI: We just attended the NCSS conference where @ 450 teachers registered for our FREE resources.

MichaelH: Cool!

MichaelH: Daman, are teachers welcome to submit lessons or resources for inclusion on the site?

DamanI: Certainly. They can just email them to irby@virginia.edu. After they are reviewed by a committee and accepted they would be included on the site.

MichaelH: That's cool. A lot of teachers would be proud and honored to be included as a contributor on this site

DebbieM: Daman I have a question.

MichaelH wonders if Dominic has everything under control with the baby change?

DavidWe agrees with Michael's "Cool!"

MichaelH: whoops... go ahead Deb

DebbieM: NP

DamanI: Our newest resource just came from the UK. It is a website called "The road to Jamestown" which highlight the commissions inclusion of the British in the commemoration. Some lesson plans have UK adaptations.

DebbieM: I'm looking at the site - am I understanding that there are lessons you created (they vary in length between 21-25 pages) but it appears that there are many others as well.

DavidWe: I was at a concert celebrating Black History month approximately two years ago...talented music professor/singer read some letters from slaves in Virginia sent to the Archbishop of London in the mid-1700s (I believe) describing slavery and how "un-Christian" it was

DamanI: You are right. The civics lessons are listed independently because they were commissioned for the commemoration but there are 97 other lesson plans contributed by numerous organizations such as national geographic, historic Jamestown, colonial Williamsburg, etc.

DavidWe . o O (remarkable letters)

DebbieM: Very good. I want to make sure I understand it so I can explain it to others. This makes sense.

DamanI: That is addressed in the "The Great Irony of 1619" and it could also be said of European treatment of Indians.

DominicS: Yes, she is just being fussy now, my wife came down to hold her.

MichaelH: Daman, do you have any plans to continue educational outreach with say, workshops, etc. at the Jamestown site or U Va?

DamanI: A Curriculum Advisory Committee consisting of Virginia Indian representatives, African American representatives, educators, and experts on Jamestown and colonial history was assembled to oversee the development of the civics lesson plans as well as the content and design of the website. The high level of quality, accuracy and inclusiveness achieved by JamestownJourney.org are the results of this vital collaboration.

DamanI: There are no workshops planned. There will be some form of outreach such as conference participation. Many of the Jamestown related organizations have their own educational outreach departments that have everything teachers need to prepare for the teaching of the subject.

MichaelH: Do you and/or Meg do outreach at state social studies conventions? (I was thinking of the Indiana Council for the Social Studies conference here)

DamanI: JamestownJourney.org is the official education website of the Commemoration and is being supported by numerous Jamestown organizations.

DamanI: We did attend the NCSS but we don't have plans to do other conferences this year.

DamanI: Please spread the word, the site is FREE. No catches!

DominicS: I will forward to our district.

MichaelH: Daman, one thing you might want to consider... I mentioned the site on various social studies listservs, but you might also want to make posts to spread the word on the site as well.

DebbieM: Yes I will. It's amazing.

DamanI: That is great. We really want people to use the site.

DamanI: That's a good idea.

MichaelH: I can send you a list of listservs that I mentioned the session on; and I also included the URL for the Jamestown Journey site as well

DamanI: Thanks for your kind comments. Daman and I have worked hard to make it worthwhile for you.

DebbieM: And concentrate on the cross curricular approach.

MichaelH: Daman, I think you already mentioned this, but if you have contact information you'd like to share... I know Debbie wants to touch base on some things...

DamanI: Everything I create is something I would personally teach in my classroom. These are the lesson plans I wished that I could have had the time to create when I was teaching. I hope they are helpful for you. I really wish I had the Rule of Law lesson!

DebbieM: Yes - Daman regarding DI.

DamanI: Daman Irby, 434.243-8475 or irby@virginia.edu

DominicS: Thank you.

MichaelH: Also, we should discuss a session sometime in 2007 on the Youth Leadership Initiative

DebbieM: Thanks much!

DamanI: If you want to talk curriculum, Meg Heubeck 434.982.5726 or mfheubeck@virginia.edu

DominicS: This site will be very helpful.

DamanI: I would love to do a YLI chat.

DamanI: Michael, call me about setting up a YLI session.

MichaelH: Yes, that would be great... Christmas is a tough time to hold sessions because a lot of folks are in final exam mode or getting ready for the holidays.

DamanI: Definitely not before the holidays, after the new year drop me a line.

DavidWe smiles

DebbieM: What holidays.... jk - I'm starting my shopping tomorrow.

MichaelH: Sure; I'll be in touch soon on that.. maybe we can talk about this sometime in early January?

DavidWe: Good idea

DamanI: Great. I have had a great time! Daman has too.

MichaelH: Maybe we can do something in February if that works ok for your schedule

DamanI: Sounds good.

MichaelH: It was a lot of fun, and thank you for sharing part of your evening with us. It was great!@

DebbieM: Yes... thank you:)

DavidWe: I think at another time (next year) there would be a lot more people interested

MichaelH: I do too, David.

DominicS: Yes. This site will be very helpful.

JeffC: This is a tough time of the year for professional development meetings.

DamanI: Please feel free to contact us individually with any questions. We thank you for inviting us to participate.

DavidWe agrees with Jeff

JeffC: However, you could set something up here at Tapped In Daman... use Tapped In to further your site's project(s).

DamanI: Teachers are always too busy.

MichaelH: we'll be looking forward to having you join us again soon, Daman and Meg

DamanI: Good Bye.

DavidWe waves

MichaelH: Jeff has a good idea, Daman and Meg...

DebbieM: Thanks Daman and Meg... nice meeting you.

DavidWe: Thanks, Daman. Very good stuff

DominicS: Bye everyone.

MichaelH: I can chat with you about it via e-mail

DavidWe: Good job, Michael!

DebbieM: Ditto

MichaelH: thanks, David and Deb

MichaelH: Daman and Meg both have young children to tend to, and that's why they couldn't stay

DebbieM: I enjoyed this... I'll be back for more.

DavidWe smiles

DavidWe: Sounds good, Debbie

MichaelH: cool, Deb.