Our National Treasures – Washington D.C.

The Culture of Our Heritage
Monuments & Memorials on the National Mall
EDUO 9649 One Semester credit/unit

Instructor Beth Levine
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This is a partial syllabus. For a full syllabus, please email the instructor.

Course Overview

The sites visited in each of the courses in the series, Our National Treasures, present inquisitive participants with many facets of our cultural heritage. The course experience itself is an exploratory process that is as much to be valued as the sites themselves. As a curious lifelong learner one must perform research in order to discover answers that lead to more questions and more research. Thus in this course, the participant prepares for the site visit by conducting investigations to gain a better appreciation of the knowledge and inspiration that the national treasure will offer. At the locale itself, questions are posed that further one’s desire to engage in additional study. Therefore touring the site and becoming engrossed in the process becomes the true national treasure. Walking along the National Mall moving from monument to monument and memorial to memorial is an experience that melds information and inspiration within the learning process. This class will bring such an experience to the participating teacher.

Course Objectives

In this course, participants will have opportunity:

- To gain an understanding of our nations’ history through the exploration of various monuments and memorials
- Relate their thoughts and feelings both during the mall walk and at the sites.
- Reflect on and communicate the experience of combining information with inspiration.
Course Relation to CCS or other Professional Standards

- Deepens and extends subject-matter knowledge within educators’ own discipline and across other disciplines.
- Increases educators’ use of universal and linguistically and culturally responsive materials.
- Supports educators in building flexible learning pathways and processes for students; inclusive classrooms; and alternative programs.
- Increases educators’ capacity to strengthen students’ participation, engagement, connection, and sense of belonging.
- Enables educators to plan and implement evidence-based instructional strategies that are responsive to students’ diverse backgrounds and needs.
- Helps educators understand that building on students’ abilities, perspectives, and potential contributes to increased student learning.
- Supports educators to build trusting relationships with students, their families, communities, and one another; provide messages of high expectations; and create opportunities for meaningful participation.

Grading Rubric

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<tr>
<td>Reflective, thoughtful ideas relevant to the assignment are clearly stated.</td>
<td>Presents some relevant ideas and connections to the assignment.</td>
<td>Few relevant ideas connected to the assignment, some ideas unclear.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Very well organized</td>
<td>Is generally well organized</td>
<td>Shows little organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignments cover numerous facts and specific details of the learning experience</td>
<td>Some facts and specific details of the learning experience are included.</td>
<td>Few or no facts or specific details of the learning experience are included.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Free of Spelling or grammatical errors</td>
<td>Writing contains a few spelling or grammatical errors.</td>
<td>Numerous spelling or grammatical errors. Writing is difficult to read.</td>
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Assignments - ALL assignment work be submitted into one dropbox

General Information about the National Mall
http://washington.org/DC-guide-to/national-mall

Information for walking to the required Monuments & Memorials

Required Monuments & Memorials to visit along with websites for Exploratory Research:
1. Washington Monument
https://www.nps.gov/wamo/index.html

2. World War II Memorial
https://www.wwiimemorial.com/

3. Vietnam Veterans Memorial
https://www.nps.gov/vive/index.htm

4. Lincoln Memorial & Reflecting pool
https://www.nps.gov/linc/learn/historyculture/memorial-features.htm

5. Korean War Veterans Memorial
https://www.nps.gov/kowa/index.htm

6. FDR Memorial
https://www.nps.gov/frde/index.htm

7. Thomas Jefferson Memorial
https://www.nps.gov/thje/index.htm

Section 1 - Photos

1A. Submit a photo of yourself at each of the seven sites and the Lincoln Reflecting Pool.

2B. ...

3C. Explain the significance to you of the sites chosen.

Section 2 - Knowledge (combining information and feelings)

2A. Using the information given you in the above resources and/or your own experience, list something you learned or relearned from each of the Memorials or Monuments.

2B. Reflect upon the feelings you experienced as you walked from one site to the other as well as at the sites themselves (you do not have to express a feeling for every site). Convey those feelings in writing.

2C. ...
Section 3 – Communicating Your Experience

Your school’s PTA has been divided on whether to spend money on Government class students to go on a field trip to Washington D.C. or for up to date governmental materials to be used in the classroom. Because you have taken this class your principal has asked you to address the PTA on why travel, when planed properly, is a far superior experience for the student than just studying material in the classroom. You have entitled your presentation “Combining Information with Inspiration to enhance lifelong learning.”

3A. How will you use your pictures taken for Section 1 to inspire PTA members? You need not show-just explain.

3B. ...

3C ...

3D Write out the conclusion of your address.

Section 4 – Into your Classroom

Write about how the information, inspiration and ideas gleaned from the National Treasures you visited could enhance your classroom teaching?

Instructions for coursework submission:
When you have completed your assignments, log into the EDUO 9649 course at DominicanCAonline.com/moodle. Post all coursework at one time in the Completed Coursework DropBox found at the bottom of the course page. Pictures and documents may be scanned and posted along with your Word or PDF file of written assignments. Label each item carefully with the assignment number and make sure that your name and email address is easy to locate.

You are allowed 9 months to complete the course. For questions about your coursework, contact instructor, Beth Levine blevine@dominicancaonline.com. For registration, transcript or other general information contact Steve Horning (shorning@dominicancaonline.com) or Karianne Pulli (kpulli@dominicancaonline.com) or see http://dominicancaonline.com/Dominican-CA-Online-FAQ.htm.