



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING


GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 1, 2022

TO: Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents
Public School Academy Directors
Local Education Agency Principals
Michigan Pre-K-12 Educators

FROM: Michael F. Rice, Ph.D., State Superintendent 

SUBJECT: Comprehensive History Instruction Webinar Series-Fall 2022

As members of a diverse state, nation, and world, staff and students need to know our rich, complex history. Our children deserve to learn about the full breadth of U.S. and world history. As educators, we have the responsibility to teach them this full breadth of history, including race, racism, sexism, and other difficult and challenging subjects.

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) identifies teaching comprehensive history as an important effort supporting [Michigan's Top 10 Strategic Education Plan](#). An essential part of MDE's efforts to improve comprehensive history instruction is to support teachers with opportunities to expand their knowledge to educate students.

During the 2021-22 school year, MDE began its comprehensive history instruction webinar series to assist educator learning about historical movements, events, and peoples that are part of the rich, diverse history of our country and world. The series began with a three-session series on holocaust education and an initial session on *Maawndoongan: Using the Indigenous-Developed Social Studies Resource Guide to Teach To and About First Peoples*. This fall, the effort continues with two new efforts.

Registration is now open to all educators for the free virtual webinar series, with the understanding that the content may be more useful for teachers of particular grade levels than others. The fall 2022 virtual webinar series session dates and learning are:

- *Asian Americans and the United States: Immigration and Citizenship*
Wednesday, September 14, 21, & 28: 4:00-5:00 p.m. (3 unique sessions)
- *Public Resources for Teaching Comprehensive History*
Wednesday, October 19: 4:00-5:00 p.m.

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608 WEST ALLEGAN STREET • P.O. BOX 30008 • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909
www.michigan.gov/mde • 833-633-5788

Michigan educators can register for each webinar by visiting the conference registration pages:

- **Register by September 13, 2022: [Asian Americans and the United States](#) (registration for all three sessions)**
- **Register by October 18, 2022: [Public Resources for Teaching Comprehensive History](#)**

SCECHs will be available for those who attend. Additional webinars on other topics will be announced in the coming months.

The webinar series is produced in collaboration with institutions of higher education, cultural centers, and the 12 federally recognized tribes of Michigan that form the Confederation of Michigan Tribal Education Departments to assist educators with the teaching of and learning about comprehensive history through thematic instruction.

Each webinar session will feature a unique presentation on a given subject. Educators interested in a given topic are encouraged to attend **all sessions** associated with the topic (e.g., the September 14, 21, and 28 sessions of *Asian Americans and the United States: Immigration and Citizenship*). Presenters will help educators learn more about movements in and aspects of history about which the latter may have had little if any background.

Supporter education organizations of the comprehensive history instruction series include the following:

- Michigan Council for the Social Studies
- Michigan Council for History Education
- Michigan Education Association
- AFT Michigan
- Michigan Elementary & Middle School Principals Association
- Michigan Association of Secondary School Principals
- Michigan Association of Superintendents & Administrators
- Middle Cities Education Association
- Michigan Association of Intermediate School Administrators
- Michigan Association for Media in Education
- Library of Michigan
- Michigan Library Association
- Michigan Academic Library Association

If you have questions regarding this support for the Teaching Comprehensive History learning series, please contact the social studies team at MDETeachingComprehensiveHistory@michigan.gov.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance
Confederation of Michigan Tribal Education Departments